

Hafa Adai!

Bid to stop Gold Beach Hotel's sale is denied.

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Man caught burglarizing store gets 1-year sentence.

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75¢

WWII sea mine found at BSI lot

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A construction company assisting the archeological digging at the Saipan casino developer Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s leased public land in Garapan unearthed a sea mine ordnance at the site.

» **US Navy says no danger or need for public evacuation**

Lt. Timothy Gorman, of the U.S. Navy's Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that at this time, there is no danger or need for public evacuation.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Jason Tarkong confirmed that a large ordnance was found at the site yesterday and that the U.S. Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal team was at the site to assess the situation. He, however, stated he has no in-

See WWII on Page 4

A CNMI Homeland Security's Community Emergency Response Team vehicle is seen entering yesterday afternoon the fenced digging site of Best Sunshine's leased property in Garapan, where a sea mine ordnance was discovered. The U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal team says at this time there is no danger or need for public evacuation.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE



Move afoot to 'undermine' land acquisition process—Demapan

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

An amendment that has just been proposed in Congress seeks to change the process by which the military can acquire land in U.S. territories, alarming Rep. Angel Demapan



Demapan

(R-Saipan) who said this would undermine the legal process of land acquisition.

According to Demapan, the proposal seeks to amend Section 2664(a) of Title 10 of the United States Code.

"The amendment seeks to undermine the statutory process of land acquisition

See MOVE on Page 4

Alter City to make \$1.2M partial payment for site permit

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

Macau-based Alter City Group will meet with Gov. Eloy S. Inos today on Capital Hill to present a ceremonial check as partial payment for the firm's siting permit.

Press secretary Ivan Blanco said the partial payment will be "around \$1.2 million as siting fees."

Payment of the siting fees is required by the CNMI through the Division of Coastal Resources Management office.

Key executives of Alter City are expected to be on Capital Hill for ceremony.

The company secured from the government last year a lease on a 152-hectare Tinian land for a \$360-million casino resort that it expects to complete within 12 years.

The development is in three phases and includes the construction of 1,000 hotel rooms, water parks, an 18-hole golf course, villas, casino facilities, and related tourism amenities.

In November 2014, a joint session of

the Senate and the House of Representatives unanimously approved the public land lease.

Alter City Group plans to build its casino resort at Puntan Diablo, also known as Nasarino, on Tinian.

It is the same area that was previously leased by Marianas Resort Development Corp., or MRDC, before the latter abandoned the lease. MRDC had planned to build a \$300-million Matua Bay Casino Resort on the property, including an 18-

See ALTER CITY on Page 4

INSIDE

MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL

Today's Saipan Tribune comes with a pullout supplement on Mother's Day, featuring the many ways you can show your love for Mom.



ASIA

More than a thousand engineers check the damaged houses in Nepal's capital.

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LIFE & STYLE

Shifting in a new direction, Jack Black rides 'The D Train'

» PAGE 32



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Local

'PL 18-75 yet another burden on CUC customers'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Consultants of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission calls a law that prioritizes renewable net metering for the hospital and public schools "another burden" for non-net metered customers.

Georgetown Consulting

Group, as part of an interim report presented to the CPUC yesterday, said the modified Public Law 18-75 adds more burden to customers not using the net metering program.

PL 18-75 and its subsequent modifications prioritize net energy metering capacity for health and education facilities. Through this law, the Legisla-

ture finds that "the only way to reduce utility costs is to utilize renewable energy sources to offset the electricity or other utility required for the operations of [the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and Public School System]."

If implemented, the law would reduce the utility costs for CHCC and PSS at the "direct expense of

increasing costs to all of CUC's other customers," the CPUC consultants said.

"This is because the fixed capacity and delivery system infrastructure cost and non-fuel [operating and maintenance] cost avoided by [the hospital and public schools] does not somehow go away because of this change to the law," the

consulting group wrote.

"Instead the costs avoided by CHCC and PSS will by necessity be collected by CUC from its other customers," they said.

This results in "yet another burden" to CUC's non-net metered customers, the group writes, from what they believe is already a "flawed" net metering system with an "excessive

maximum 10 megawatt capacity limitation" and its allowable 30 percent net energy metering capacity penetration level.

The consultants also said that while the law requires "prioritization," it does not state what this means.

Perhaps this means that CHCC and PSS will not be handling
See PL 18-75 on next page

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Bid to stop Gold Beach Hotel's sale is denied

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho denied yesterday Korean businessman Soo Gon Kim's motion for a temporary restraining order to stop his brother and his company from selling their Gold Beach Hotel Saipan and any other assets of their company.

Camacho issued the order after Soo, his brother Hyung Gon Kim, and their mother, 78-year-old Tae Bong Kim, appeared and testified in court at the TRO hearing.

The judge noted, among other things, that there's no public interest for the court to consider and that whatever damages they may be can be reduced to payment of money.

Camacho said there are serious issues about the transfer of shares, but the hearing yesterday was not to determine the merits of the case.

Soo is suing Hyung and the latter's Northstar Corp. to stop them from selling the 50-room Gold Beach Hotel, located along Beach Road, Garapan.

Soo, through counsel Vincent DLG. Torres, also asked the court to issue a TRO and a preliminary injunction prohibiting Hyung and Northstar Corp. from selling the hotel and any other assets of their company, MARISAI Inc.

According to Torres, one of MARISAI's assets is the

Gold Beach Hotel. The lawyer said Soo owns 200,000 shares of MARISAI since February 1997, while his brother, Hyung, owns 190,000 shares.

Torres alleged that in March 2010, Hyung unilaterally transferred Soo's 200,000 shares to their mother, Tae Bong Kim. Hyung then filed and signed the annual corporate report for the year 2009 reflecting the new transfer.

Soo alleged that he did not sell or transfer any of his shares to their mother and that he did not authorize his brother to make the transfer.

Torres said that, in February 2015, Soo received information that Hyung sold the hotel for \$2.6 million and a \$600,000 down payment had already been made, with the balance to be paid in full in the next couple of months.

At yesterday's hearing, Torres said his client relied on Hyung's representation to manage Gold Beach Hotel and that not a single penny was transferred to MARISAI Inc.

"This court is only the remedy," Torres said, adding that the main litigation is that Hyung has no authority to sell the hotel to his own company, Northstar Corp.

Torres said Soo wants to take back the hotel from Northstar Corp. and put it back to MARISAI Inc. where it belongs.

"We want the court to maintain the status quo," Torres said.

Torres asserted that time is of the essence in this case because if Hyung completely sells the hotel, receives full payment, takes the money and flees from the CNMI, Soo will be left with much damage.

Colin Thompson, counsel for Hyung and Northstar Corp., said the status quo is that Gold Beach Hotel has already been sold.

Thompson said the court cannot enjoin Hyung from doing that which has already been done.

Thompson said the sensible resolution is to deposit the proceeds of the sale in the court's account or to a trust account.

Thompson said pure monetary injuries are not normally irreparable. He also argued, among others, that because the alleged sale of the hotel is between private

parties, there is no public interest for the court to look into.

In plaintiff's rebuttal, Torres said the main issue is not the money, but MARISAI's assets, the hotel that belongs to his client, Soo.

"It's about the assets that we're concerned," he said.

In his testimony, Hyung said he is willing to share the hotel's profits. He said he negotiated the sale of the hotel.

Hyung said since 1997 he has been supporting his mother. He stated he borrowed money from Northstar, his company, to renovate the hotel.

He said his brother Soo asked to get half of payment from the hotel's sale out of \$2.6 million.

Hyung said he refused his brother's request for \$1 mil-

lion, but that he is willing to give him \$500,000.

Hyung said he agrees to place the disputed proceeds of the sale in a court's account or trust account pending resolution of the case.

Hyung said his wife has been operating the hotel since 2013.

Hyung said he told his mother to transfer her shares to his brother.

On his part, Soo testified that he owns 200,000 shares of MARISAI or 51 percent and that his brother owns 190,000 shares of 49 percent.

Presented with a document showing that his mother now owns 200,000 of his shares, Soo stressed that he did not sell or transfer his shares to his mother.

Soo said that at a board meet-

ing in August 2009 in Korea, it was discussed that Hyung would borrow money from Northstar to renovate the hotel.

In that meeting, Soo said he never gave the authority to sell the hotel or authorize the transfer of his shares to his mother.

The mother, Tae Bong Kim, testified, through an interpreter, said Soo never sold or transferred his MARISAI shares to her.

Tae also stated that she never authorized the sale of the hotel.

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PL 18-75

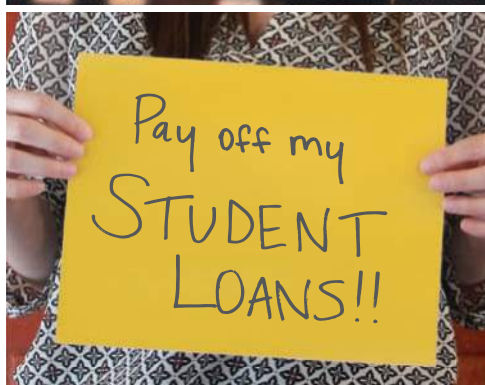
From Page 2

dled on a first come, first serve-basis and will simply go to the front of the queue, the consultants said.

But without clarification, this would seem to leave the matter

of prioritization to CUC's own interpretation, since the law states that its implementation will not require the review or approval of CPUC.

As the report states, CUC has not yet proposed or adopted any rules for the purpose of this implementation.



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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kanoa Resort general manager Wendi Herring and human resource manager Joe Ada met with Public Works Secretary James Ada, adopt-a-highway coordinator Jack Sablan and other members of DPW in the presentation of the road signs that will be used along their sponsored highway.

Kanoa Resort joins DPW's adopt-a-highway program

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Road signs that will be used for the highway stretch that Kanoa Resort adopted were presented at the Department of Public Works in San Jose yesterday.

Kanoa Resort general manager Wendi Herring and Human Resource manager Joe Ada met with Public Works Secretary

James Ada as well as other members of the department to see the road signs that will be put up on the part of the highway that they are sponsoring.

Kanoa Resort is responsible for the road starting from the front of its hotel all the way to the Chalan Piao stoplights near Hopwood Junior High School.

"Our sincere appreciation to Kanoa Resort for being an

adopt-a-highway member," adopt-a-highway coordinator Jack Sablan said.

For Kanoa Resort GM Herring, it's important to take part in the community.

"It's in line with the Tan Holdings' commitment to help the community. We want to make sure that we do our part to keep our island clean and beautiful," Herring said.

Members of the program are expected to clean their part of the highway at least every quarter.

Kanoa Resort is the newest member of the adopt-a-highway program, bringing the members' number to 19.

However, the two-year contracts of many members are going to expire soon.

"Most of [the members'] ex-

piration dates are coming up. We'll be giving them a call if they still want to remain and if they do, then we'll be happy to renew their contracts," Sablan said.

DPW also reminded the pub-

lic that they are going to clean by the Shell gas station in the Puerto Rico area from 8am to 3pm tomorrow.

"We are asking motorists to be cautious when driving by that area," he said.

ALTER CITY

From Page 1

hole golf course.

The relocation of Tinian's landfill in Puntan Diablo, meanwhile, is still being discussed with the U.S. military but a proposed site has already been identified, according to Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas.

"The property where the dump sits has been leased to Alter City Group so the leadership is working very hard to relocate the dump and we've thought that the appropriate site should be at Pina," he said.

Alter City has proposed to provide funding for the relocation of the dumpsite, saying they wouldn't move forward with their project until Tinian's leadership relocates the dumpsite.

MOVE

From Page 1

by simply replacing it with a provision that the Secretary of the Defense will only need to 'consult' the chief executive officer of the state or territory," Demapan said. "I am strongly opposing this newly proposed amendment."

Demapan said everybody knows "that the U.S. government uses the term 'consult' very loosely."

"We witnessed this with the federalization of local immigration control and the designation of the Marianas Trench Marine Monument. The Commonwealth argued that there was a lack of 'consultation' as required by law," he said.

"To the contrary, the U.S. government claimed that 'consultation' was fulfilled and moved forward despite opposition from the Commonwealth government."

"To date, the Commonwealth has not realized any economic benefit from these decisions," Demapan.

He particularly noted that the proposed amendment was introduced just one day after the

military public meetings in the CNMI last week.

"This is clearly the latest tactic by the Department of Defense to undermine the statutory process of land acquisition in states and territories. It is extremely troubling that even after three consecutive public meetings in which members of our community vehemently opposed the military's plans for live-fire and bombing exercises in the Commonwealth, the very first thing they do is submit a proposed amendment to make it easier for the DoD to acquire real property," he said.

The lawmaker said he is now readying a House Joint Resolution for the CNMI Legislature's consideration to send an official position to the U.S. Congress stating its opposition to the proposed amendment.

"It's very troubling and extremely disappointing to see that the U.S. government continues to seek ways to unilaterally impose certain decisions upon the Commonwealth," he said.

Saipan Tribune sent an email to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan yesterday to seek his comments on this issue; he had yet to reply as of press time.

WWII

From Page 1

formation about its size.

Gorman said the Joint Region Marianas was asked yesterday to assist after a construction company discovered the sea mine.

Gorman said EOD's Mobile

Unit 5 flew yesterday morning from Guam to Saipan.

"They are assessing how best to proceed and I will let you know when I have further information," he said.

DPS acting spokesman Tarkong said Best Sunshine contacted DPS about the discovery of the ordnance and DPS Tactical Response Enforcement Team

assessed the situation and then called the U.S. Navy in Guam.

"I don't know the details," Tarkong said.

When Saipan Tribune visited the place yesterday afternoon, seen outside the fenced area formerly known as the Samoan Housing Area were police officers and personnel from the CNMI Homeland Security.

At about 5:15pm, a CNMI Homeland Security's CERT vehicle was spotted entering the fenced digging site.

Last week, Best Sunshine inked a \$5-million lease deal with the government for the 19,154 square meter public land, where the company will build a five-star hotel and casino. (with Dennis B. Chan)



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Contact Hiroko Tajima, PDI (287-8780); Hiroko Tenorio (483-0614); Or Elena / Wellington (234-6412)



Senate awaits Aetna data before acting on retirees' insurance bill

By **JOEL PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate will wait for data from Aetna Global before acting on a bill on retirees' health and insurance plan.

Sen. Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) earlier introduced Senate Bill 19-10 to allow retirees to enroll back in the government's health insurance program anytime they wish to, instead of just within six months after they retire, as mandated by Public Law 15-70.

According to Quitugua, SB 19-10 is expected to benefit some 900 to 1,000 retirees who

have opted out of the government's insurance plan.

The bill was calendared for passing, but due to questions regarding the bill's possible impact, the Senate will not act on it just yet.

Quitugua said the Department of Finance has been asked to coordinate with Aetna Global regarding this impact. "We will wait for the data from Aetna," he said.

Quitugua's colleagues in the Senate earlier commented that the return of retirees who initially opted out of the government insurance might cause premium rates to rise.

Quitugua, however, said this is just one of the reasons, and that there are other reasons, including high cost of medical services and high cost of medicines.

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota), chairperson of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, said the Department of Finance will "soon" provide the data.

Impact

Aetna Global is the insurance provider for government employees until the end of fiscal year 2015 in September.

Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) said that retirees going back into the plan will have more health and insurance needs, which in turn might

prompt higher rates.

About 3,000 government employees could be affected, according to Senate President Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota).

Hocog added that if the 900 to 1,000 or so retirees are allowed to go back to the government insurance plan, the government needs an additional 500 employees just to keep the rates or lower the rates a bit.

He also said bringing in the 900 to 1,000 retirees on the Aetna insurance "today" might also affect the government to the tune of \$1.2 million in additional payments by the end of the fiscal year.

Hocog said one possibility is for the government to bring retirees who previously opted out

back to the insurance plan little by little and see what kind of impact this will have.

He said data is needed from Aetna on what will happen to the existing insurance rates if,

say, 25, 50, or 100 retirees are brought back in.

Hocog said he understands the noble intent of Quitugua's bill, but lawmakers would have to be very careful.

Cape Air flight turns back to Guam

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Cape Air flight carrying 35 passengers, one child, and a crew of three bound for Rota had to turn back to Guam due to issues with the plane.

According to the Cape Air/United Express public relations office, flight UA5038 from Guam to Rota returned to Guam shortly after take off due to a mechanical issue.

The afternoon flight was set

to depart for Rota at 1pm yesterday, according to flightstats.com.

Cape Air/United said the aircraft landed safely back in Guam at 1:25pm.

The mechanical issue was fixed and the aircraft was placed back into service and departed at 5:15pm. This, following a "thorough inspection by our maintenance team," said Cape Air/United.

"We regret any inconvenience experienced by our customers," the airline said.



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Saipan Mayor's Office may not get requested budget

By JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office may not get its proposed budget for fiscal year 2016, but some of its concerns will be addressed.

The Saipan Mayor's Office asked for "around \$3 million" for fiscal year 2016, according to Saipan Mayor David Apatang. This is nearly double the governor's proposal of \$1.6 million, which is the same level given to the Mayor's Office last fiscal year.

Apatang, who was sworn in in January, said his budget proposal will fund an additional 10 full-time employees, beautification of the island, and cleanup drives in Kagman, San Vicente, and other areas in the middle part of Saipan.

The proposed budget will also fund the Mayor's Office stray dog removal program, which he said is very costly.

Rep. Antonio Sablan (R-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, which is overseeing the budget hearings, said the Mayor's Office might not get the additional \$1 million, but some of its needs will be addressed.

He said the committee will also study the pressing needs of the Mayor's Office including operational costs, its dog control program, prior obligations, and list of other obligations.

"What we need to do is determine where the current budget is short, and try to come up with funding for these areas," Sablan said.

"Personally, I think the committee will support the additional funding, particularly for rental costs, and purchase of equipment such as an excavator and a loader."

Sablan said the committee recognizes that Apatang's proposed \$3-million budget was the amount that Apatang deemed "essential" when he took on the position.

A big item on the proposed budget is the \$280,000 for the construction of a new shop behind the post office, which is unsafe and has structural issues, Sablan said.

Sablan noted that Apatang is also coordinating with the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council on other funding sources.

Up to 780 dogs can be sprayed

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Up to 780 dogs can be serviced during the Saipan Mayor's Office's spay/neuter clinics this month, according to Mayor David M. Apatang and dog control program manager Spencer Marchadesch.

During a budget hearing yesterday on Capital Hill, Marchadesch said, "This is a big chance for Saipan. Right now we're having requests, having reservations, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of this."

Apatang urged lawmakers to

spread the word and to take advantage of the Saipan Mayor's Office's spay/neuter services that will be offered from May 18 to May 30.

It will take place at the dog kennel in Lower Base and in Kagman.

The mayor's office is collaborating with the Humane Society International and Animal Balance on the clinics.

This program is intended to control the growing population of stray dogs on island. Its proponents say it is a very simple procedure, with the added benefits that the animals live longer, they're healthier, they're less likely to bite, they're less likely to roam, and they're less likely to be perceived as a nuisance.

So far this fiscal year, the mayor's office has registered 66 dogs, impounded 163, adopted four, reclaimed 10, euthanized 102, spayed or neutered none, and removed 10 carcasses.

Apatang's and his staff's objective for this fiscal year and the upcoming fiscal year 2016 is to complete the construction of the animal shelter office, rest-room, clinic and recovery room, fencing, sewage line connection, water catchment and water tank system, and a complete repair of the kennel.

Other goals are to acquire new vehicles for the dog control program, uniforms for the program's staff, and to conduct more low-cost spay/neuter programs.

Pie-eating contest at 'Taste' tomorrow

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas Food Festival and Beer Garden at the American Memorial Park will have its second day tomorrow, featuring different performers, food, and a pie-eating contest.

The pie-eating contest will be held at the rear stage. At 8pm contestants under age 18 will battle it out, with adults taking their turn at 8:30pm.

The entertainment lineup includes Out of the Ordinary Band, Rose Dance Studio, Jamaican Tangantangan, Simiyan Manainata, and JJ Concepcion, and the TRU Marianas.

Food vendors will be Canton Restaurant, Coral Ocean Point Resort, D'Elegance Café, Fiesta

Resort and Spa Saipan, Furusato Restaurant, Herman's Modern Bakery, Hula Girl, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Marianas Resort & Spa, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Sierra's Pearl Shake, Thai House Restaurant, Tony Roma's/Capricciosa, and Tropical Chill.

Beer garden vendors include Pacific Trading Co., Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc., and Northern Marianas Bartenders Association.

Taste of the Marianas is in line with the monthlong celebration of Tourism Month for the CNMI community to be aware of the "unique recreational, cultural, and lifestyle appeal of the CNMI and how tourism plays a great role in the CNMI in improving lives and the visitors lives as well."

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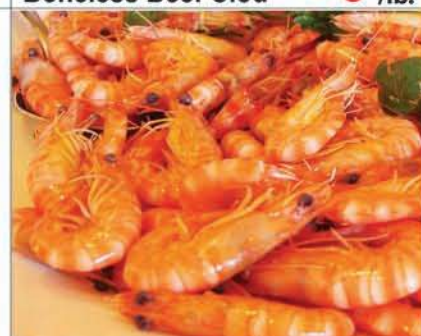
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Man caught burglarizing store gets 1-year sentence

A man who was caught burglarizing a closed store in Koblerville late at night was sentenced yesterday to one year in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced the 22-year-old Romileo O. Sahagon to three years in prison, all suspended except for one year, for burglary.

In a written order yesterday, the judge noted that Sahagon has some sort of psychological condition and a learning disability that has been diagnosed.

"The disability does not excuse criminal conduct; however, it is a factor the court considers for reducing the individual's culpability for that conduct and

the risk of harm," said Wiseman, acknowledging the pleas for leniency from family members and friends. The judge also noted that Sahagon has no criminal history.

Sahagon was given credit of eight months and 27 days for time served. He is expected to be released from the Department of Corrections on Aug. 10, 2015.

After completing his sentence, Sahagon will be placed on probation for two years. He was ordered to pay a \$100 court assessment fee, perform 100 hours of community service, and undergo any recommended counseling from the Community Guidance Center.

Wiseman said the crimes of burglary and theft continue to have a negative and chilling effect for people of the CNMI, and this is an aggravating factor.

Wiseman noted that, as mitigating factors, Sahagon was caught in the act by the couple storeowners when they entered the store while it was closed to make coffee. The female storeowner became so frightened that she had to be rushed to the hospital.

Immediately after being caught in the act, Sahagon surrendered, cooperated in the investigation, and immediately accepted responsibility.

Assistant attorney general Heather B. Barcinas recom-

mended a sentence of one year in prison and probation for five years. Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig, counsel for Sahagon, recommended eight months in prison with credit for time served and probation.

The Office of Adult Probation recommended a one-year prison term plus probation.

Sahagon and Hartig entered a plea deal with the government, represented by assistant attorney general Heather B. Barcinas.

Last Nov. 12, Sahagon pleaded guilty to burglary. The incident happened at Flo's Mini Mart in Koblerville in August 2014. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Norita faces Senate hearing, bares priorities

By JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services acting commissioner Clyde K. Norita is planning to establish a training academy for future firefighters in the CNMI.

The proposed academy is just one of the priorities that Norita bared yesterday during his nomination hearing at the Senate.

The academy, according to Norita, will be funded by the department. To keep costs down, he plans to establish the academy on Tinian and Rota instead of inviting potential students to go to Saipan.

Instructors from the department will fly to Tinian and Rota, perhaps on a weekly basis to conduct the training.

Critical

The department needs more firefighters, particularly on Rota, Norita said.

He described the need for more firefighters on Rota as "critical" considering that there are only five firefighters working on 24-hour shifts.

According to Norita, there is only one firefighter at night and this person also has to drive an ambulance. In emergency cases, the firefighter has to call a policeman to drive the ambulance while he attends to the victim, Norita said.

Norita said the Fire Department currently has an agreement with the Department of Public Safety.

Other plans

Norita said his department will initiate more coordination with the CNMI's existing and future investors.

"We became a department late, and the developments are already in play," Norita said, adding that the department now is "trying to figure out how we can work with those developments that are in progress."

He stressed that for future developments, the Fire Department will have big say as far as building designs and regulations are concerned, according to the language of the Fire Code of the CNMI.

Norita says the department can then use this as a "leverage" to convince investors to start investing on their own fire trucks, ladder trucks, and ambulances.

"But I don't intend to burden one investor," Norita said, adding that he will recommend the investors to "spread out" the investments among investors.



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Whispering Palms School is currently accepting applications for the 2015 - 2016 school year.

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PRINCIPAL:

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TEACHERS:

Kristy Beling, Entering third year of teaching at Whispering Palms, Masters of Elementary Education from Winona State University

Nick Brennfleck, Eleventh year teaching, Masters of Teaching from George Mason

Jenny Slack, Started at Whispering Palms in 1999, Masters in Teaching from the Evergreen State College

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W.P.S. has an educational campout every February on Managaha Island



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Learning about Sea Turtle at Managaha

Here are some of the Colleges and Universities Whispering Palms School students have attended:

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He's the **nicest** teacher and very funny. If we don't understand our lesson, he asks our classmates to help us understand. He is very helpful.

*Tamisha Sablan, 10, 4th grade,
Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School*



I love my teacher because she **helps** me and my classmates. If don't know some of the work, she will help me.

*Apon Rhman, 8, 1st grade,
Koblerville Elementary School*

'They Never Gave Up on Us'

Our teachers are at the heart of all efforts to improve our public schools. What they know and can do is the most important influence on what our public school students learn.

In celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week, the State Board of Education and the Public School System through the Office of the Commissioner of Education extend our profound appreciation to all of our teachers, teacher aides and instructors who work to ensure that our children learn the very best.

You continue to stand next to our children, jumpstarting their dreams and possibilities.

You have helped transform our school district as an institution that remains genuine with its care for putting our Students First and in believing in the possibilities within everyone.

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Thank you for the gift of learning.

2015 Teacher Appreciation Week

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Our teacher is **outgoing** and **helpful**. He also finds fun things to make us learn in a better way and how he never left us behind.

*Jerrilyn Reyes, 13, 7th grade,
Tanapag Middle School*



I like my teacher because he has **reasonable rules**. He teaches us lessons that we should know. He does a lot of P.E. activities.

*France Elizabeth Piscou, 12,
6th grade, Garapan Elementary School*



I like her because she is **smart**. She's kind and she helps me with my work when I am having trouble with it. She is smart because she is a teacher!

*William Ano, 10, 5th grade,
Oleai Elementary School*



Because she is **fun** and she is good in teaching us. She is very kind and good not mean.

*Trino Tahey, 12, 6th grade,
San Antonio Middle School*



They are all **open-minded**. And if you need support, they are always there for you. They accept you for who you are; they don't judge you. That's why I love my teachers.

*Manny Borja, 14, 8th grade,
Chacha Oceanview Middle School*



All my teachers are very **entertaining**. They like to make our lessons fun so that we do not get lost or bored on the subject.

*Maragarita Kileleman, 17, 12th grade,
Kagman High School*

Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Anti-Semites in Israel

Bibi Netanyahu told electorates the day before the March election that there isn't going to be a separate Palestinian state under his watch. He made friends with the *yamulka*-wearing curly-long-haired-*yeshiva*-black-attired crowd; he raised eyebrows in many Foreign Affairs offices save the American conservative Jews that fuels Bibi's support base in the U.S. Obama's WH is not a conciliatory force to Jewish interests.

Netanyahu chose an internationally unpopular stance, though, the sentiments of the U.S. and Israeli electorates are a microcosm of a worldwide trend he represents. Along with Shinzo Abe of Japan, popular conservative positions dominate their country's political equations.

Bibi exudes admirable confidence. A 120-member Knesset allows Bibi's 30 elected party members to form a government. The orthodox factions lament global anti-Semitism, highlights the experience of Europe's Holocaust in wails at the nation's historic Memorial Wall, but counter those who maintain peace in the Abrahamic tradition of the Torah, the Gospels, the Koran, and the Baha'i. Bibi falls into orthodoxy's groom's man category.

At partition, Islamic Arabs opposed the geographical divide that got disparate Golan Heights, Gaza Strip, and the West Bank to be a single political unit against the one terrain of Israel, a basic nightmare. With more than 100-million Arabs breathing down the neck of three million Jews, the Israelis took on the role of David vs. Goliath with homegrown confidence supported by U.S. armaments.

Zion's resolve got popular nod until moral suasion gave way to ethnic prejudice, and heavily armed David turned from the oppressed to the oppressor, a reversal of roles.

Anti-Semitic sentiments are on the rise again in *Eretz Yisrael*, the emotionally loaded traditional name of the "Land of Israel." Its geographic boundaries were established during King David's reign, affirmed by Solomon, and adhered to by the UN Partition of Palestine. Bibi dismisses suggestions of a Palestinian state within Israel's bounds.

Tel Aviv is the primal city of Israel. The UN has Jerusalem on paper. Jewish rule manages the city—the Wailing Wall, the al-Aqsa Mosque, the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount, and the Church of the Sepulcher. The unicameral Knesset (Parliament) sits at the center of Jerusalem.

Rothschild in Austria's royalty hardened outlook on well-off Jewish families in Europe. The Jewish labor class lives in ghettos, the butt of racial discrimination, from Russia west of the Urals to Rome. The clash of perception between kibbutz crusaders who birthed post-WWII Zion, and the profit-mad Jewish businessmen of the global economy, compete for allegiance in *Eretz Yisra'el*. Anti-Semitism faces national arrogance in Jerusalem. In the Earthrise, we might be cautioned not to hold on too firmly to racial and national biases! We only got one Earth!

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MARTIN O'MALLEY CAMPAIGNS at the POTTERY BARN

Icehole Zombies

Some years ago the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a graphic novel, *Preparedness 101: Zombie Apocalypse*, providing tips to survive a zombie invasion as a "fun new way of teaching the importance of emergency preparedness." The CDC goes on to summarize cultural references to a zombie apocalypse. "It uses these to underscore the value of laying in water, food, medical supplies, and other necessities in preparation for any and all potential disasters, be they hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, floods," or...hordes of zombies?

Though well-intended, the CDC's depiction of a zombie apocalypse as a metaphor for the real and very serious nature of deadly epidemics initially struck me as more of a distraction that somewhat trivialized the intent. But more recently it occurs to me that perhaps sensationalizing (as with a typical Hollywood depiction) the onslaught of a zombie virus in warp speed has in fact served to desensitize us from the all-too-real, slow-creeping epidemic of actual zombies who walk among us today. Hear me out.

I really don't think it's much of a stretch to compare the pale clusters of jacked-up "ice-heads" in our community to the hordes of walking dead zombies made popular in film. Admittedly, I really don't understand the biological effects of meth on a person's brain, but I picture the sight of dripping gasoline on Styrofoam where it literally burns/melts holes upon contact. Hence 'Icehole' (as coined by one of my brothers) which, coincidentally, rhymes with another word that I'd like to but can't use here.

Ultimately, we're talking about "mindless, unthinking henchmen under the spell of an evil force" with both being generally "hostile to human life while engaging in a general assault on civilization."

Mind you, I believe wholeheartedly that recovery is possible for meth addiction and, unlike the zombie virus, can be mitigated without a bullet to the head. But, for anyone actively using and refusing to seek help, I'd just as soon see him wallow in some deep, dark hole of despair never to be seen or heard from again. Alas, the beast inevitably comes out to eat. I mean, for a fix, these Iceholes will rob and beat up their own mothers (or worse, their grandmothers) for God's sake. Recently, I've heard of young children being pushed by their own Icehole relatives to peddle the stuff for them. Even worse than that, I heard from someone who knows that a child of a mere 15 years old is a known user in the community...our community.

Of course, we know with some certainty that punitive measures to combat addictions are less likely to yield any genuine, positive

By JIM RAYPHAND

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jim Rayphand is executive director of the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.



outcomes as say, a proper treatment plan (i.e., rehabilitation). So despite my visceral aversion to Iceholes, I am not completely without empathy. You see, "[using], once a habit becomes an obsession, a true insanity that condemns people to [use] against their will."

Sadly, we also know that drug use "can sometimes give rise to symptoms that, over time, lead to a diagnosis of mental illness" though "it is dangerous to conclude that drug use caused a mental illness" (Dr. Porteus). The point being that the lines between mental illness and drug addiction are sometimes blurred; in fact "research suggests at least a 60 percent rate for co-existing disorders in treatment programs. Professions have started to include substance abuse counselor training with mental health competencies, and mental health training with substance abuse competencies" (NAMI-YOLO).

On a personal note, I've had to make a concerted effort to distance myself from or rather cut certain people out of my life due to their involvement with ice. It's really a sad occasion when you have tell someone you are close with or care about that he/she is not allowed to come to your house anymore; unfortunately (especially in the CNMI), the options are slim. And, short of praying for some divine intervention, that's all I know to do in order to keep my kids safe. I don't think I need to elaborate on the kinds of criminal atrocities being committed at the hands of these Iceholes.

Make no mistake. Our civil island society is under attack and we are at war—World War IZ: *The Rise and Fall of the Icehole Zombies*.

For more, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tel] / 235-7275 [fax/tty] or via the internet at www.nmpasi.org. Also, our Governor has proclaimed May 17-23, 2015 as Prevention Awareness Week. For more information on what you can do to assist in efforts to prevent addictions, please call CGC at (670) 323-6560/61.

Blue, blue, blue

Words: they're everywhere. They're blaring from TVs, pouring out of radios, glowing on computer screens, and even sitting as ink on an ancient medium known as "paper." I've read accounts that claimed that Americans were, on average, consuming over 13 hours a day of media.

Is that an accurate number? No idea. But it's still a reminder that it's hard to craft a message that punches through all the clutter. Saipan isn't aloof from that reality.

Anyway, this isn't really a new situation. It's as old as mass media itself.

I like to reflect on some of the old-school efforts that punched through the clutter and into the memories of the public. There are nuggets of wisdom to mine from this stuff.

I'm going from pure memory on this because these examples are, indeed, so very memorable. Here's what I recall:

■ 'Blue, blue, blue'

This isn't really old school, but it's hometown so it gets special bonus points.

I first encountered this in 1997, so it must have been pretty fresh at the time. It came from a CNMI tourism TV ad that was crafted for the Japanese market. The ad showcased Saipan's beautiful scenery.

The ad's slogan was: "Blue, blue, blue." It must have been memorable to tourists, since I sometimes heard them saying those words when I'd fly helicopter air tours around Saipan.

As I recall, the ad was created by the I&S advertising agency in Tokyo. I had a copy of it on tape. I've since lost it. If anyone can scare up a copy to give me, I'd sure like to have it.

Debate on military plan

Initially, I thought we had a clear understanding, sense of purpose, and conviction to stand behind protecting our time-honored traditional values as indigenous people. In the process, we boldly tried to navigate the difficult challenges of the 21st century.

Unfortunately, we're victims of our own blurred vision and ill-conceived perception of what indigenous culture is, giving way to unprecedented heights in hypocrisy. We slide into discussion of issues so unpleasantly disorienting, if not humiliating.

For instance, we oppose militarization of the islands yet we're deftly mute on casino gambling. Which policy would provide edification—strengthening of our traditional values—and can someone articulate it in straightforward fashion?

If there's clear conviction and commitment to indigenous culture, then it would seem logical that we would clamor to preserve the Samoan Housing Area to protect the sacred burial ground of our ancestors. But we acquiesce it in place of a hotel-casino and visitor recreation. Isn't ancestry paramount to the local culture? Why dismiss and trash the wisdom of tradition?

Evidently, did you oppose Arnold Palacios' exemption of BSI from zoning laws that fast tracks destruction of our ancestral burial ground?

Remember when ANA stopped its project in San Roque out of respect for our ancestral burial ground? What does that decision tell you of an investor's respect of the sacredness of ancestral burial site? Did your memory fail you on this score?

No military on Pagan because of its "cultural value" yet it's fine to see its defacement or destruction from pozzolan and basalt mining? Or did you conveniently look the other way again?

It's clear the contemporary indigenous people have inherited two cultures: traditional and neo-colonial. You use the former to say "no to military" but then slip into the latter to welcome continued federal assistance. It includes food stamps, Medicaid, housing voucher and over \$100 million annually in federal funds. You thought you

And now we move to the truly old school days, and most, if not all, of the following comes from the '70s:

■ 'You deserve a break today.'

The TV jingle went like this: "You deserve a break today, so get up and get away to McDonald's." That ditty must be four decades old and it still has hooks in my brain.

■ 'Have it your way!'

In the burger industry, McDonald's had an arch rival in Burger King.

Burger King came on strong with TV spots that featured a friendly, happy lady as a Burger King worker. The ads open with a slice-of-life angle: the worker is taking orders from customers who have special requests for how their burgers are made. Oh, did I mention that the worker is friendly and happy?

In fact, mere speech can't contain her enthusiasm. She soon breaks into song: "Hold the pickles, hold the lettuce, special orders don't upset us, all we ask is that you let us serve it your way."

The concept worked its way into common speech. Your boss might growl at you, "This ain't Burger King, pal. You can't have it your way."

■ 'Everybody doesn't like something, but nobody doesn't like Sara Lee.'

This jingle, for the Sarah Lee brand of frozen desserts, is one of the most elegant sentences in the English language. It's clever. It's fun. It's memorable.

I've forgotten a lot of things, but I never have not remembered this phrase.

■ 'The few. The proud. The Marines.'

This recruiting slogan is just six words, but there is a dignity to

could have your cake and eat it too while rolling out the red carpet of permanent deculturation. What grand achievement!

It was upon our land that was founded a tradition of farming by our ancestors. It is a relationship that makes up the rich heritage of the indigenous people. We're still farming and fishing! We're still here, though confused over cultural wardrobe: traditional or neo-colonial.

Sad that we've also given up prime land along the shores that has finally annihilated traditional fishing and shut off places we used to frequent to gather family meals. We now head to NAP Office for sustenance. Where's the credibility about cultural values and wisdom?

I used to fish with other families in Puntan Muchot, then turn inland to catch land crab. Now it's filled with tourists rubbed in perfumes of their empire. We've even prostituted dances in loincloth for their entertainment, dances that are best left to traditional indigenous ceremonies. Why did we allow our sails to be ripped off by our lack of honest conviction to protect the sanctity of certain aspects of our culture?

Did paragons of culture critically question implementation of food stamps, Medicaid and housing voucher that have slowly created entrenchment of dependence and hopelessness? Why treat indigenous culture with dismissive inconsequence?

Appalling the lame posturing as culture warriors interchanging traditional and colonial cultures for purposes of convenience. I know my culture's full measure and not shipwrecked in passing familiarity. Do we now allow traditional values and wisdom to die a disappearing death because of your seesaw conviction?

We're caught in between

Political dominance of Asia and Pacific regions is central in the global tug-of-war of which country rules the world—U.S. or China?

The NMI is basically a cog in the huge geopolitical machinery.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



this phrase that stands tall.

■ 'Datsun Saves.'

I've written about this before because this example is so impressive. These two little words, "Datsun Saves," were featured on TV and in print ads. They served as the tip of a spear that punched through the auto industry's weighty pile of blah-blah-blah.

You're familiar with Nissan, the Japanese car maker. Back in the day their U.S. badge was "Datsun." In the early- to mid-'70s, as Japanese cars were trying to get established in the U.S. market, high gas prices and other economic problems were putting the squeeze on the nation's drivers.

Datsun made the right pitch at the right time to the right people for the right cars.

I have more entries on my list, but I'm out of space. Maybe we'll pick up the trail some other time.

In the meantime, you've got 13 more hours of media to consume today, so I'd better let you get going. Me, I'm going to grab a burger. Something tells me I deserve it.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



But we're stuck in the wheel that must continue spinning to support the function of the vehicle.

Then there's the emerging "bromance" between Russia and China that could shift political rule of U.S. and Western-dominated order in Europe and Asia.

Evidently, Pagan doesn't belong to the loudest huckster nor does he or she represent the views of the rest of the indigenous people Marianas-wide.

Hindsight tells this scribe the fortune inherent in the agreement we've taken for granted. We receive over \$100 million annually in direct and indirect grants for a hospital, sea and airports, power plant and sewerage system. Remember?

Palmier days fading

Casinos in Macau have seen revenues dip by 39 percent in April, according to the WSJ this week. The construction of other casinos started in palmier days may be on hold given the decrease in revenues.

The business decline started when President Xi Jinping implemented anti-graft investigations all over the landscape that severed the role of the triad in Macau. Jinping stopped any and all transfer of big money from China into Macau. Where do we factor making big money under this scenario?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks but no thanks

Dear Honorable Kilili Sablan: Over the years you had been very instrumental in addressing your constituents' concerns, but as you stated over the phone you had no time for us and your case worker would be addressing our concerns. First of all, your case worker is representing you and your case worker's performance reflects on you as our representative. Are you very confident that you would win another election, even if you change your attitude toward your constituents? Oh, we forgot that the elitists and the rest would fare better when they request for your assistance. Are you going to wait for Fresno VA Medical Center to respond to you? What is the purpose of you representing us if we are nothing to you? Mr. Sablan, thank you for your no assistance to my VA vocational rehabilitation request in the past and my wife's request for medical assistance in Fresno. We are bunch of liars and not worthy of your time.

Segundo Castro

President/founder

CNMI Absentee Organization in the US and CNMI

Find a balance between culture and economic gain

Of bones in Garapan. Whose bones is it anyway?

The Carolinians settled the project area long before these islands were discovered, and they named it Arabwal. Today it is called Garapan from the root word, Arabwal.

The Carolinians' named other places in the CNMI, Guam, and elsewhere. Their unique knowledge of non-instrument seafaring ability that enabled them to sail the ocean as far as Japan and elsewhere was established long before these islands were discovered. It's common knowledge and it is believed among the Carolinian communities that bones with betel nut stains are bones of their ancestors.

The Carolinians are not trying to be indifferent from the rest, in moving forward into the modern world, but I believe that they are simply trying to protect what rightfully belongs to them.

Their traditional forms of respect, proper language usage, a deep understanding of their culture and customs, religious beliefs and practices are not compatible with the exploitation of their sacred land and ocean resources, which also includes the protection of ancestral bones.

The conflicting ideals, imposed by the Spanish, Japanese,

Germans, and now Americans, continue to impact their simple island way of life. These ideals prevented the value of oral learning that would have provided a balance between learning both oral and written forms.

Regardless of whose bones, they must be respected and given the proper burial ceremony according to rites and ritual of their origin.

Perhaps a consultation with Chamorro and Carolinian communities on the proper cultural manner for the recovery and treatment of their ancestral bones can address this issue. Another possibility is the establishment of an interpretive display, educating the community on the culture significance of this sacred land, along with the establishment of a sacred area for cultural purposes within the development site. This balance will surely include the concerns of native Chamorro and Carolinian, as well as an economic gain for the island.

Lino M. Olopai

Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼75°

SATURDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼75°

SUNDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°

MONDAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers.

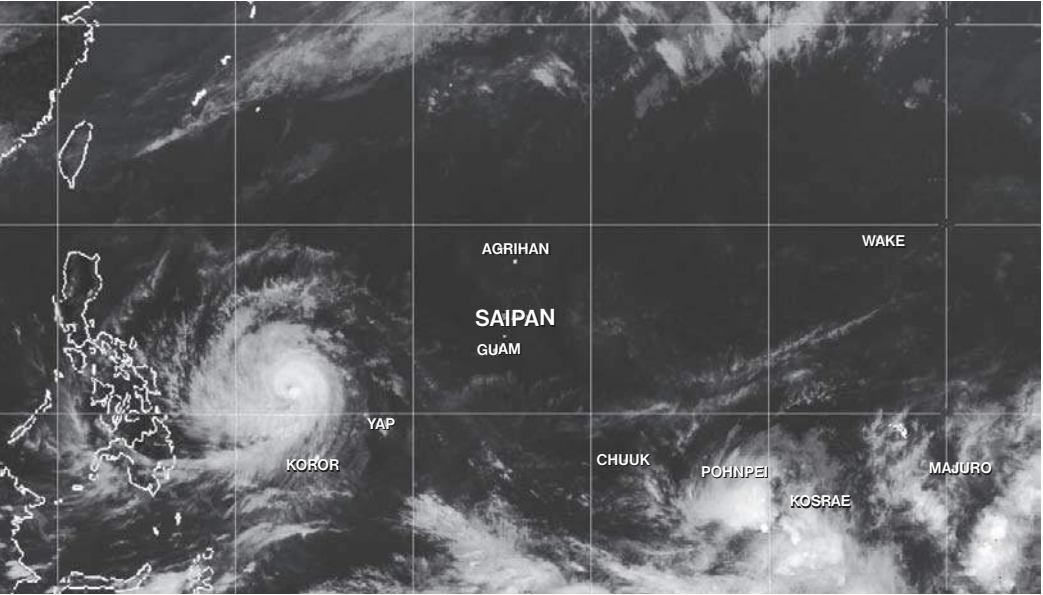
▲86° ▼76°

TUESDAY

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.

▲84° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Noul (06W) is centered 310 miles west-northwest of Yap near 11N134E moving west-northwest at 3 mph with maximum sustained winds of 105 mph. Numerous showers and a few thunderstorms are within 100 miles of the center of Noul. Farther out scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are up to 350 miles from the center of Noul. For more information on Typhoon Noul see bulletins issued by The Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW or The National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Tropical depression 07W is centered 245 miles south-southeast of Pohnpei near 4N160E moving east-southeast at 3 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Numerous showers and a few thunderstorms just south of Pohnpei are between 6N and 3N from 155E to 160E. For more information on Tropical Depression 07E see bulletins issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW or The National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough stretches from Typhoon Noul at 11N134E through Tropical Depression 07W at 4N160E to end near 2N170E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Yap and south of Chuuk are south of a line from 5N140E to 1N154E to 12N161E and south of Kosrae to the south a line from 5N161E to 2N168E. A tropical disturbance is centered southeast of Majuro near 5N175E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are within 100 miles of a line from 1N173E to 7N177E to 8N180E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼82
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲90	▼81
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼82

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Rain	▲66	▼55
Beijing	Showers	▲69	▼51
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86	▼79
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼70
London	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼47
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲64	▼52
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲94	▼76
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼53
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	▲84	▼72
New York	Sunny	▲77	▼58
Osaka	Sunny	▲77	▼65
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼50
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼57
Rome	Sunny	▲85	▼61
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼45
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼50
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼62
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼62

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
5:35 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
10:26 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:43 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:52 AM	6:36 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:37 PM
Sunday	5:51 AM	6:37 PM
Monday	5:51 AM	6:37 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:37 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	10:16 PM	9:06 AM
Saturday	11:08 PM	10:02 AM
Sunday		10:58 AM
Monday	12:00 AM	11:56 AM
Tuesday	12:49 AM	12:53 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily		
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			OZ623	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
OZ624	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			OZ704/623	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, ,3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:30pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:25pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM		
OZ624/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/5038	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota		
						UA184/5077	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	5 via GUM		
						UA184/5041	11:30pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM		
						UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM		
						UA184/5043	11:30pm	10:10pm+1	5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ746/623	12:40am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
OZ624/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN			UA180/5041	9:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM		
						UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
						UA180/5043	9:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM		

CNMI PERSPECTIVES

The military buildup and wisdom for the CNMI.

By **AMBROSE M. BENNETT**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The military buildup has the CNMI literally standing at the crossroads with no definitive determination of which direction we will end up going as we might not have full control of our destiny in this matter when we should. There are three roads intersecting us so do we take the road that says no to the military as this road leads to nowhere for the CNMI or the military. Do we really want to refuse any obligations we have to help the military when we depend on them? Just think, we are willing to sacrifice our young people to fight in foreign lands for other people but we don't want to figure out a way to share some land! Give our children a break, it makes people wonder about the CNMI's priorities with America.

Certainly if terrorists choose to make the CNMI a target or if there is another world war, which is possible with bombs falling on the CNMI, we would definitely want the military to occupy as much of the CNMI as possible. The military really does need our help so do we come off as pure

parasites only wanting to take from America what we can get but not willing to do our fair share in sharing the burden of the cost to live free and safe? The federal government has given the CNMI over \$2 billion in cash over the years and hundreds of millions in resources every year yet the CNMI has never sent a thank you card or one penny to the federal government. Let's be real about this.

But there is a second road so do we take the second road that says yes to the military and literally sacrifice most of the CNMI's future growth and expansion to become a CNMI that will look and be more like a militarized zone than a tourist destination? This road also leads to nowhere by turning Pagan and Tinian into live fire practice facilities that is not the future that citizens had expected for their small islands and especially when the plans for the future of the CNMI are not coming from CNMI leaders but the military. Pagan will no longer be the future developing island that will have a complete and permanent society with schools, hospital and other necessities for a perma-

nent sustainable community. Tinian will also be limited in its growth potential if the military gets its way. In fact, some of the land the military wants to take on Tinian is already being looked at for cultivation to support the marijuana industry that is being considered. So is it right to let the military dictate our future on a road that literally stops our growth and expansion and limits our Commonwealth to what it is today?

But there is a third and final road to choose from and it reads yes-and-no to the military buildup. This road has potential options on both sides of the road that leads to an unexplored valley that is full of plant life and flourishing with symbiotic (mutual) relationships. The military will be able to accomplish what they need to do and there is plenty of room for the CNMI to grow and expand without being limited by military activities. The problem is getting the military and the CNMI to take the same road, especially when this road is only marked yes-and-no but it is still being surveyed to be cleared for development.

Personally, I think and be-

lieve we should be working on the yes-and-no road. We really can't just thumb our noses at the very people we expect to protect us and keep us safe, especially when our children are among those in their ranks. We really don't want to look like parasites only wanting federal money because we should be true patriots like our children in the military. But at the same time we can't just let the military commandeer (take) what they want from us as the CNMI is only being invited into their decision after they have made the decision, which was the military's biggest boo boo! The military and the CNMI need to save face, as we say, and the best way is for the CNMI to put forth our plan to help the military and then we will have a real starting point for both sides that will be much more favorable to the CNMI.

This issue truly reminds me of King Solomon and the decision to split the baby in half so who will be the bigger person in this to propose a solution, the military or the CNMI? Given that it is the CNMI's land that is being protested, it should be the CNMI to come

CNMI PERSPECTIVES

The impending militarization of the Commonwealth

This is an occasional addendum to the *Saipan Tribune's* Opinion section, soliciting the viewpoints, opinions, and thoughts of experts, academics, and members of the public on a specific topic.

forward to offer the options and believe me there are some good options for us to present if we can stop hating long enough to look. I have studied this and there are some good options that will even be more beneficial to the CNMI's present and future efforts to develop a robust and successful tourist industry with a high quality of life for the people.

The CNMI just needs to be smarter than the military with this issue and unlike Solomon, we don't have to make threats but we do need to consider "sharing" as we teach children in elementary school that "sharing is caring." So do we walk our talk even when it is difficult or do we come off as parasites to the military and the rest of America, especially to the taxpayers and Congress, who have been sending over \$100 million every year to the CNMI? Yes, our budget is actually \$200 million-plus every year, we just don't count the federal dollars—we just spend them. So everyone needs to re-

ally think about this long and hard because we are getting a close look at the reality that *freedom is not free* as someone has to make sacrifices beyond the battle field to keep us safe and free. This time we are being asked! Heck, it was women working behind the lines who had a major role in saving us in WWII.

We know the military needs these facilities to keep a sharp edge on America's spear. So being an American is not as easy as some may think. It is because it is not all about taking from America as we must also *give back* through patriotic efforts and deeds! To my critics, please try to have enough sense to wait and see what the plans are for the yes-and-no road before you start complaining about something you obviously don't anything about yet. So can we please get a little patient on this sensitive issue before you irresponsibly start throwing rocks like an idiot throwing at nothing!

Craig Whelden's haughtiness and apathy

By **J. RICK PEREZ**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Dennis Chan's May 5th article in the *Saipan Tribune* titled "NMI has a role in US forward presence" smacks of hubris on the part of Craig Whelden, the Marine Corps' top civilian who is the face for MARFOR-PAC in the Marianas.

Whelden's comments are haughty because he omits to state the grave concerns that villagers from Tinian have over the proposal to increase military activities across the street from San Jose village. Whelden's comments are also misleading because he quotes from the 2012 presidential directive to pivot to the Pacific but omits references to just how large the Indo Asia Pacific region is and omits to state that there are several other places outside of the Marianas Islands for Marines to train at the individual, unit, and combined training levels.

Whelden states that "We have over 22,000 Marines west of the international date-line and we plan to maintain that forward presence. That forward presence is a deterrent to other adversaries that might think about doing some things that otherwise they very well do."

My response is that these comments are overgeneralized cue card talking points that do not address other possibilities like putting Marines on the

Korean Peninsula or in Australia or in the Philippines or elsewhere. Marines also have a much cheaper option to become readiness certified in Hawaii or the West Coast and then fly out via commercial or military air to Japan to embark with the Navy should things get hot.

Whelden then goes on to state that, "The South China Sea is being contested, if not daily, certainly weekly. All these contests of will in the South China Sea—between them, the Filipinos, the Japanese, and other countries—are putting the area at some risk. ...Having a forward presence...demonstrates the will of the United States to be here for our friends, our allies," he said. When asked to unpack what he meant by training requirements, he tied it all to "national security."

This particular statement has no context and is not properly calibrated to what the Marines can and cannot do. Having a Marine Corps presence in Guam, Tinian, or Pagan will not impact or somehow deter any one nation from miscalculating a situation or host of situations in the South China Sea that could become hot because the Marines cannot deter nation states from starting fights if they so choose.

Whelden comments that "Amid a new national security agreement with Japan, and a 'contest of wills' in the

South China Sea, the Marine Forces Pacific look to build a forward presence in the region as a deterrent to aggression in the Pacific."

It is precisely because we have an anchor relationship with Japan that we have created the conditions that increase the likelihood of tensions spiraling out of control. Our hip-glue to Japan also poses a much broader threat to American military security and that is the possibility of entrapment driven by miscalculations undertaken by the Chinese, Japanese, or Koreans that could lead the U.S. into another protracted war that will require American public support and billions of dollars to fight.

We lost in Iraq and we lost in Afghanistan. We don't need another opportunity to lose a fight again.

Whelden states that "Over the course of the last two years, we've had a number of staffers and a number of congressmen and senators who have come through,"...."And we have told them about the studies we are doing for the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas joint training [environmental impact statement]—but because it's a study and no conclusions have been made yet, I think they are waiting for us to come to a conclusion before we go to that next step."

The people of the NMI and Guam do not have authentic

representation in Congress and it is not the responsibility of Congress or MARFOR-PAC, COMNAVMAR or PACOM HQ to speak unilaterally about what can or should be "concluded."

Whelden also states that there are "42 unfulfilled training requirements" in the Pacific region but fails to identify what specifically he means by this.

We all understand that Craig Whelden is doing his job but until such time that he and the senior Marine generals at MARFORPAC and Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington, D.C. begin to expand how they think about potential places to train west of the international date line or to train east of the international date-line, pointing to the Marianas as the place to go will result in the production of long-term problems and disharmonies between the military and islanders, driven by the risks of witnessing irreversible cultural and environmental destruction unto the Chamorro people, their islands and their place in this world at disproportionate levels.

Chamorros from the Marianas Islands have a very limited landmass and environmental resource base to begin with that must be protected for present and future generations; otherwise, we will literally see our cultural and environmental ecosystems be further damaged or destroyed.

Is that too much to ask?

By **DAVID M. SABLAN SR.**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I feel I should write this to let young generation in our community know why I am supporting the proposal of the military pursuant to the draft Environmental Impact Statement, more commonly referred to as EIS. Last Friday night, May 1, 2015, I was going to summarize my personal views but unfortunately I was deprived of the three minutes accorded to me. So, here I am again asking you to kindly print this letter so your readers may understand why I am supporting the military's proposal.

I understand that the military is planning to use specifically designated area on Pagan for training and use "inert bomb" for their aerial training. I suggest you check the dictionary for the word "inert." An inert bomb is not an explosive bomb, but instead it uses wet sand or cement. In the final analysis, the military will most likely use an isolated area close to the volcano on the north side of Pagan Island. The training of military personnel with live ammunitions will probably be located close to the volcano area. The total area the military is proposing to utilize on Pagan is a small percentage of the overall area of the island. I fervently appeal to the residents to please make sacrifices for the sake of the rest

of us in the CNMI. After all, we too have pecuniary interest in Pagan.

The question that comes to mind is, "Do we need to train our military personnel and why?" The answer is unequivocally "YES" because the two U.S. territories, namely Guam and the CNMI, are in the Pacific Ocean and United States must be prepared to protect/defend us in time of conflict.

I watch CNN News nightly and I am deeply concerned with what I see, about one of the leaders in Asia who is showing off his power. I want to be sure that the U.S. Defense Department is readily able to counter any attempt by an adversary to cause us any harm. This is one of many reasons that I am in support of the military. I do not want to suffer through another ugly war!

Uncle Sam has never asked for any help except for a small percentage of real estate on Pagan to train our military to ensure that they are "combat ready" in time of conflict. Conversely, Uncle Sam, even before we became a U.S. Commonwealth, has helped us improve our life with the hundreds of millions of dollars they have poured into the CNMI and never asked for anything in return. Let us show our appreciation by letting them use a small area in Pagan to train the military. It that too much to ask?



Guests are shown here having their picture taken at the photo wall of the 2014 Green Gala.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MINA announces the 2015 Green Gala

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance. To help celebrate the organization's birthday and raise funds for its work to preserve and protect the CNMI's environment and biodiversity, MINA is excited to announce The Green Gala 2015 scheduled for Sept. 4, 2015. It promises to be an evening of great entertainment, food and beverages, and the annual silent auction.

MINA is supported by project grants and especially generous contributions from local

businesses and community members. The Green Gala is the organization's largest fundraising event of the year and raises funds, enabling MINA to sustain its important work.

For the past two years, this has been a sold-out event, so be sure to purchase your tickets early. Tickets will be available starting June 1, 2015, at the MINA office and from MINA members. Call 233-7333 with any questions, to purchase your tickets, or to learn how you can become an event sponsor. (MINA)

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MAY 30, 2015 • 6PM-11PM

Saturday, May 2, 2015 Entertainment

6:00 p.m.	Out of the Ordinary Band
7:00 p.m.	Rose Dance School
7:30 p.m.	Jamaican Tagantagan
8:00 p.m.	Simiyan Manainata
9:00 p.m.	JJ Concepcion and TRU Marianas
10:00 p.m.	Closing

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2015 CNMI TOURISM MONTH

"Tourism is Everybody's Business"

Proclamation Signing

April 29, 2015

Governor Eloy S. Inos will officially declare the month of May 2015 as CNMI Tourism Month with a formal proclamation signing ceremony at 9:30 a.m. at the Office of the Governor on Capitol Hill. The Marianas Visitors Authority and our industry partners invite the public to participate in the activities of the Tourism Month celebration.

Tourism Industry Clean up Day

April 29, 2015

Marianas Visitors Authority invites the community to join the Japan Saipan Travel Association and our other tourism partners to help beautify the Garapan tourism district in preparation for Japan's Golden Week holiday. The clean-up will be from 6:30-8:00 a.m., beginning at the American Memorial Park parking lot to Carolinian Affairs Office along the beaches and streets.

"Hafa Adai Tirow" Spirit Island Wear Fridays

Every Friday in May is Hafa Adai Tirow Spirit Island Wear day! Show your island pride and culture by wearing island attire or local traditional wear. Post your photos on Facebook at "My Marianas (Marianas Visitors Authority)."

Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden

This highly anticipated weekly celebration will be held every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park from 6-10 p.m. The event will feature delicious local and international cuisine sold by 15 hotel and local restaurants. Enjoy the talent of local and international performers with live entertainment all evening. The event will feature nightly competitions, as well as trivia questions aimed at promoting tourism awareness.

"My Marianas" Community Outreach Presentation

Get up-to-date on the latest industry trends and upcoming tourism events during this picturesque slideshow on Saturday evenings at the Taste of the Marianas.

On-the-Street Interviews

MVA turns the spotlight on you as random community members are given an opportunity to share their views on various tourism topics in the Tourism Topics feature of the Saipan Tribune.

Radio Tourism Trivia

Call in with the correct answer for your chance to win tokens for the Taste of the Marianas and Tourism Month T-shirts. Tourism Trivia will air regularly throughout the month on Power 99 (97.5 FM), KZMI (103.9 FM) and KKMP (1440 AM and 92.1 FM).

Tourist for a Day (Tinian)

Pupils and students will be toured around the island as tourists bringing forth awareness of the importance of the only industry we have. The tour will include all major historical and cultural sites including beaches on the island while emphasizing on the value of maintaining such sites.

Pie Eating Contest

8:00 p.m. - Under age 18

8:30 p.m. - Ages 18 and older

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(Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Email Address: ben.sablan1994@gmail.com) or Call 234-2585/235-9020



For more information contact MVA at telephone: (670) 664-3200/01 Email: mva@mymarianas.com www.mymarianas.com



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Hope Run raises \$4,312 for students' tuition assistance

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seventh Day Adventist School's 5K fundraiser last Sunday raised some \$4,312 that will go toward scholarships for students who need financial assistance in attending their school, according to SDA public relations and teacher assistant Faith Hoyt.

The school event, called the 6th Annual 5K Hope Run, drew 87 runners for a race from Garapan Fishing Base to Trankun Da'uk beginning at 6am.

Hoyt told *Saipan Tribune* Wednesday that the money raised will go to subsidize tuition for students who want to attend SDA but are financially unable to cover all of their tuition.

With the amount raised, she said they would be able to help six students.

She gave a "big hearty thank you" to everyone who supported the event.

From first to 10th place, the top overall finishers were Ronald Villafria, Gary Bandoja, Claire Devey, Sang Yoon, Solomon Ivesusab, Ken Pierson, Steven Pixley, Siyoung Heo, Jushu Qiu, and Sam R.

In the 10 years old and be-

low category, top male and female finishers were Ryan Yoon and Mariel Lopez, respectively. For the 11-to-20-year-old category, this was Jushua Qiu and Salome Muller.

For the 21-to-30-year-olds, the top male finisher was Chase Shiremen; the top female finisher was Bekah Shiremen. For the 31-to-40-year-old category, Solomon Iyesusab and Claire Devey were first to finish.

For the 41 to 50 years old, Ronald Villafria and Jenny Yoon finished as the first male and female finishers, respectively. For the 51 years old and above, this was Steven Pixley and Marie Babauta.

SDA thanks their sponsors: Hyatt Regency Saipan, MARPAC, DFS Saipan Limited, Micronesian Brokers, Joy FM, Saipan SDA Dental Clinic, IT&E, AON Insurance, Pacific Islands Club, All Stars Sporting Goods, Kanoa Resort, Marianas Resort and Spa, McDonalds, Café Mango Six, Herman's Bakery, Advance Exterminators, Goris Missions, Subway, National Office Supply, Modern Stationary, Transamerica Corp., Bestseller Bookstore, 360 Restaurant, and LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

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Company claims vs man who says he is still the firm's president is junked

The federal court dismissed Wednesday a company's claims against a man who maintains he is still president of the firm and is in a legal battle over their disputed \$224,585 in a company's savings account.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Wanzhong Yu's motion to dismiss without prejudice Universal Group Development Inc.'s (Saipan) claims against him.

Manglona, however, allowed Universal Group to amend its complaint by May 21, 2015.

Universal Group, which used to operate the Hailan Market and Oriental Dumpling Restaurant on Saipan, is suing its former president and shareholder, Yu, for conversion and First Hawaiian Bank for breach of contract. Universal alleged that Yu and the bank blocked the company from gaining access to its \$225,000 of its own funds from a business savings account.

Yu maintains he is still president of Universal and that he was detained in China for 22 months due to the political influence exerted by his former business partners, Mingnam Jin and Jinwei Guo, who are claiming they are the officers and directors of the company and that Guo is now the sole shareholder.

Yu asked the court to dismiss the claims against him.

In granting Yu's motion to dismiss, Manglona said the first allegation—that Yu unlawfully removed funds from Universal Group's account at FHB—lacks sufficient specificity to plausibly state a claim.

The judge said the pleadings do not specify any instance of Yu withdrawing funds from Universal's FHB account, nor a reasonable time for such withdrawals.

Manglona said the pleadings do not even provide a ballpark figure for the amount of funds allegedly converted.

Manglona said Universal's second theory of liability—that Yu kept corporate profits to himself at the expense of the other shareholders—must also fail.

"As Yu points out, the pleadings do not allege any harm to Universal," said the judge, noting that Universal failed to respond to this argument.

Manglona said because the complaint does not allege that Yu misappropriated Universal's resources, the court finds that Universal lacks standing to assert a conversion claim.

Universal's third theory of liability—that Yu converted Universal's bank account by asking FHB to freeze it—also fails to state a claim of conversion, she said. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



Representative from New Chang Ming Market poses as he receives the prize on behalf of the winner.

"On a Tuesday night at around 7:30 p.m., my family and I decided to cruise down to Garapan before I headed to work. We stopped by New Chang Ming Market for some snacks, drinks, and of course my pugua supply. I was standing in line and a curious voice in the back of my mind was telling me to try my luck on an instant scratchies so I bought \$10 worth of Quick Cash scratchies. I won a few small amounts. On my last ticket, I saw two \$1,000 signs and I began to feel very nervous. I became very excited after I finished scratching my last ticket, when I saw that I had won \$1,000!!!"

— Mr. Camacho

NMASA would like to bid good luck to all the players!



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Pick up and submit application packets at the Saipan Mayor's Office or email your submission at liberationcnmi@gmail.com. Deadline to submit is 4:00pm on Friday, May 15th.

NMC nursing program accepting applications for fall 2015 cohort

Students who are interested in pursuing a career in nursing can apply to become part of the Northern Marianas College Nursing Department's newest cohort in the fall 2015 semester. Those who meet the program's requirements can submit their

application before Wednesday, May 27, 2015.

The NMC Nursing Department will be selecting students to begin taking nursing courses in the fall 2015 semester based on the following criteria: cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher;

completion of all nursing and general education prerequisites with a grade of "C" or higher; the ability to understand, speak and write in English; and passage of the interview with the department.

Off-island applicants can be

interviewed via telephone or videoconference.

The number of students selected will also depend on the number of faculty available to teach the class. At this time, the class size will be limited to 30 students. If there is not enough

space for all applicants, a wait-list will be established.

Students are advised to make an appointment with their advisor as soon as possible to discuss prerequisites and transcripts in order to determine current standing and progress toward meeting eligibility requirements.

Selection of cohort participants will be completed before Aug. 10, 2015. A notification let-

ter will be sent to each applicant using the address designated on the application. Applications are available for pick up at the NMC Nursing Department in Building C at the NMC As Terlaje campus (Monday-Friday, 8am - 4pm), or may be downloaded at www.marianas.edu.

For more information, contact the NMC Nursing Department at 237-6743 or email rosatudela@marianas.edu. (NMC)



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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Happy Mother's Day to two beautiful mothers, Mommy Vicky and Mommy Felician! Enjoy your day and God bless you! Greetings come from your girls Rina and Ria and god-daughter Feliciania.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advanced happy Mother's Day to the world's most loving and caring mothers, Maggie Masga and Eden Aguan! May this year's Mother's Day be filled with lots of love and happiness. Thank you for everything you have done for us.

Words cannot express how much we love you guys and how lucky we are to have you in our lives. From your children, grand babies and in-laws.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday to our dear mother/hana, Grace Aldan! Wishing you nothing but good health and a lifetime of happiness. We love you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 78th birthday, Grandma Rita, and a Happy Mother's Day to you! May you have many more in your golden years! You've watched us grow and celebrated every birthday of ours as a family. We love you so much. Greetings come from your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



TEACHER'S APPRECIATION WEEK

Happy appreciation to our teacher, Señor Mendiola! Thank for everything. Thanks for teaching us how to speak and learn how to do Chamorro things, snacks or food. We love you! Sorry we gave you hard time. Greetings come from your Homeroom B-3.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



From the management and staff of

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Tan Siu Lin
Foundation

OIA engineers, PSS meet over deferred maintenance projects

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System has been meeting with three different expert groups over the last couple of weeks to assess the start of systemwide deferred maintenance projects, according to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan.

The visiting groups were composed of architects, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing experts, and civil engineers out of Hawaii.

The groups aim to finalize a report in June that will set up the

implementation of the deferred maintenance projects.

After this the request for proposals and timelines for repair can be made, Sablan said.

In their visits, the groups have been verifying and checking to see if items identified in earlier phases have been taken care of and whether or not new items have arisen.

The project, based on the Office of Insular Affairs "Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms," aims to address the \$10.5 million and growing deferred maintenance costs in

all 19 schools of PSS.

The top priority of the project is "safety and health," said the commissioner.

The "most critical" items are electricity, fire alarms, and fire protection systems. These are the immediate priorities, she said.

Over a period of five years, the Office of Insular Affairs have asked that insular governors set aside \$1 million per year over five years, with the amount going toward the maintenance and upgrading of school buildings.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* this \$5 million is not enough to

cover all the deferred maintenance, but that "we hope we can work with our elected officials for their support."

With the exception of five schools built in the early 2000s,

the average lifespan for PSS schools is over 40 years old.

Sablan said they hope to work with the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services to address the fire protection sys-

tems in their schools.

"The [department] are the ones who authorize permits or licenses to ensure the school system is compliant with national fire code regulations. We are grateful for their partnership," she said.

BOE chair: We are against pot in any form

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lest they be misconstrued, Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero reiterated their position against the legalization of marijuana yesterday.

"We are against the legalization of marijuana in any such form. However, we see the popular support for medicinal marijuana, if not legalization of marijuana outright," he said.

Because of this, if medicinal marijuana were to be legalized, there should be a "ban of five years" on the overall legaliza-

tion of marijuana, he said.

Guerrero aimed to clarify any opinions out there that the board or the Public School System supports the legalization of marijuana under the condition of the moratorium.

As stated in their comments on Senate Bill 19-06, which seeks to legalize medicinal marijuana, PSS and the board urged for an amendment that would put a moratorium on full legalization of marijuana for five years from the passage of the bill.

"This way we can give medicinal marijuana a shot and see what effects it has on our is-

lands," Guerrero wrote, noting the already present problem of betel nut, cigarettes, and marijuana use.

The use of these substances is a "plague on our education system," he wrote.

He also wrote his hope that if the bill were passed, that drug laws be enforced in the CNMI.

"It seems that pot is already *de facto* legal as there are no pot prosecutions and they are only incidental to other crimes."

"I think that an increase in enforcement will go a long way with helping our students make the right choices," he said.

Open enrollment at Whispering Palms School

Parents looking for an excellent school on Saipan will be happy to discover Whispering Palms School. WPS has been in operation for 27 years and is centrally located on Navy Hill.

The experienced U.S.-certified teaching staff is focused on preparing their students for high school and beyond. Students from Whispering Palms School have transitioned very well into high school and have demonstrated the study skills and dedication required to be on a path to college. Graduates of Whispering Palms have attended college at Harvard, Stanford, Brown, University of California, University of Hawaii, and more.

WPS has a student population of up to 74 students, first

grade through eighth grade. The students have classes and course work in reading, writing, history, mathematics, and science. WPS also engages its students in extracurricular activities, including participation in mock trial, Math Court, forensics league, the Scripps National Spelling Bee, and the STEM Fair. Whispering Palms has some unique events such as Authors' and Artists' Night and its one-of-a-kind outdoor practicum, held annually on Managaha Island. This program allows the students to get out of the classroom and participate in a hands-on learning environment. The program is structured with educational classes taught by local scientists, cultural arts, and dancing taught

by local artists, water sports, and overnight camping.

Whispering Palms offers a great academic program and encourages its students to participate in MISO and private school sports. WPS school teams have won numerous titles and are always competitive in the leagues they join. The physical education, swimming and track activities are led by 2011 Coach of the Year Jeff Race. WPS also employs an art teacher and a hands-on science teacher.

WPS has reasonable tuition and offers discounted pricing for families with multiple children. If interested, contact principal Rob Epley at www.whisperingpalmsfosaipan@gmail.com or call 323-7451. (WPS)

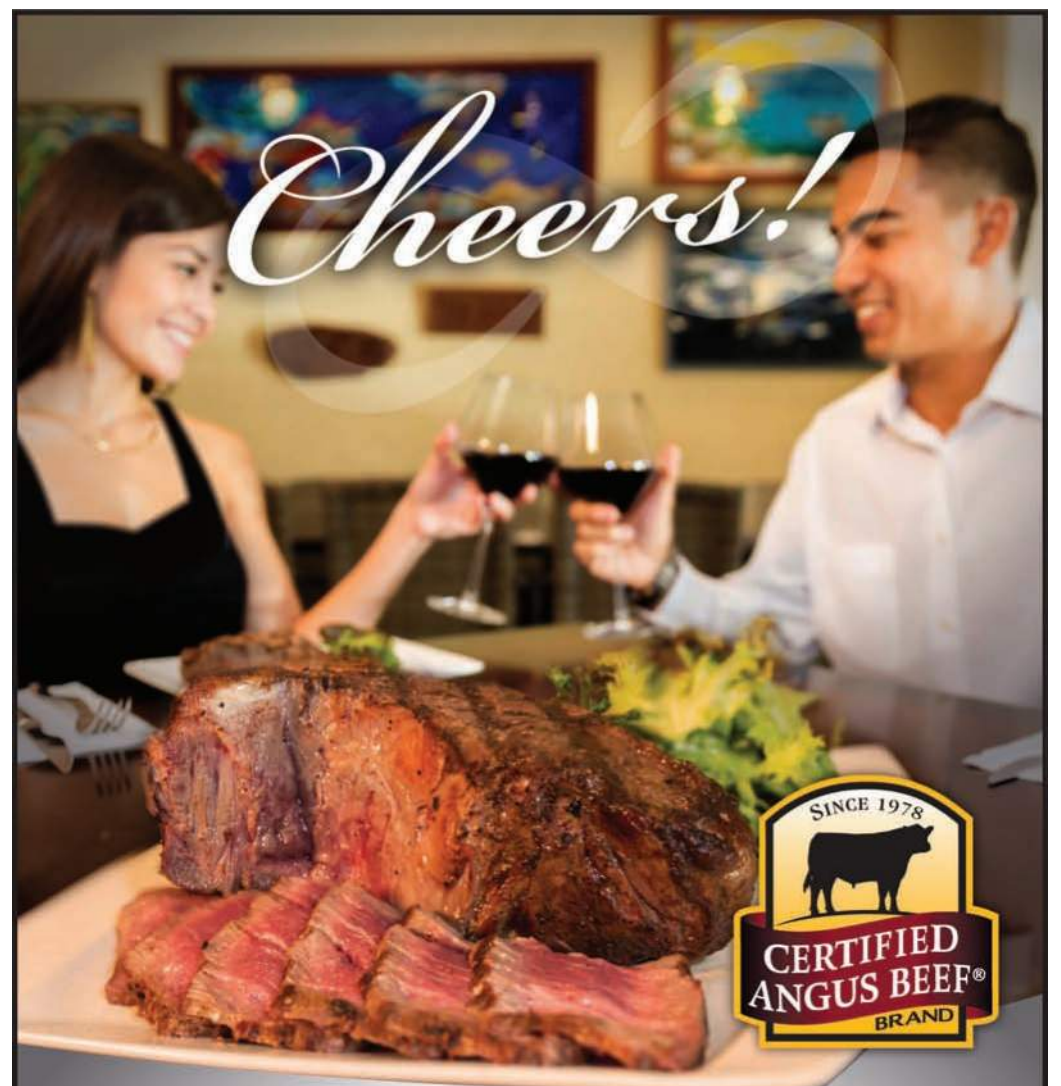


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Business

The first self-driving vehicle you see may have 18 wheels

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Traveling about 55 miles per hour on a Nevada highway, the big rig's driver looked like The Thinker,

with his elbow on the arm rest and his hand on his chin. No hands on the steering wheel, no feet on the pedals.

Mark Alvick was in "highway pilot" mode, the wheel moving this way and that as if a ghost were at the helm.

Daimler Trucks North America LLC says its "Inspiration" truck, the first self-driving semi-truck to be licensed to roll on public roads - in this case any highway or interstate in Nevada—is the future of trucking. It's a future that will still need drivers, but they might be called

"logistics managers."

"The human brain is still the best computer money can buy," said Daimler Trucks North America LLC CEO Martin Daum on Wednesday.

Although much attention has been paid to autonomous vehicles being developed by Google and traditional car companies, Daimler believes that automated tractor-trailers will be rolling along highways before self-

driving cars are cruising around the suburbs.

On freeways there are no intersections, no red lights, no pedestrians, making it a far less complex trip, said Wolfgang Bernhard, a management board member of Germany's Daimler AG, at an event in Las Vegas.

But it will be years before an autonomous truck hits the highway for anything more than tests and demonstrations, the

company says.

The industry is watching the developments, said Ted Scott, director of engineering for American Trucking Associations, which represents trucking companies.

He questioned what the economic benefit would be, with companies paying a driver's salary on top of the new technology, even given the potential safety advantages including less-fatigued drivers.

"Being a tired driver is not as big of a problem as it's often made out to be," Scott said.

The group representing truck drivers—the Owner Operator Independent Drivers Association—isn't sure the technology would affect driving jobs, noting the abundance of job openings now and the industry's high turnover.

"We mainly have questions," said Norita Taylor, the group's director of public affairs, citing current laws regulating how long a driver can drive and prohibitions on texting while driving.

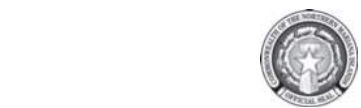
Al Pearson, Daimler Trucks' chief engineer of product validation, said all the same laws still apply: No texting, no napping while in motion.

"We need an attentive driver," he said, with the technology removing some of the stress.



People load in to a Daimler Freightliner Inspiration self-driving truck for a demonstration Wednesday, May 6, 2015, in Las Vegas.

AP



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INVITATION TO BID ITB15-GOV-084

Procurement and Delivery of Desktop Computer Hardware with UPS, Software and Printers

Submission Date: May 26, 2015
Opening Date: May 26, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m.
Time: 10:30 a.m.

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) are soliciting sealed bids for the procurement and delivery of desktop computer hardware with UPS, software and printers for the Rota Mayor's Office and Rota Department of Public Safety.

The project package will be available on Friday, May 1, 2015 at CIP- Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt must be presented when obtaining a package. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing on or before May 11, 2015 to CIP-Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill or fax to (670) 664-2408. Response to questions will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **ITB15-GOV-084 Procurement and Delivery of Desktop Computer Hardware with UPS, Software and Printers**, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., May 26, 2015. Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:30 a.m. Saipan local time May 26, 2015.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part and to waive any imperfection in any bid in the best interest of the Government. All bids shall become the property of the GNMI Government.

Eloy S. Inos, Governor

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply



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Nation

Tornadoes in southern Plains, destroy homes and flip cars

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Tornadoes raked the southern Plains Wednesday, overturning cars on an Oklahoma City interstate and destroying dozens of homes.

No deaths were immediately reported from the tornadoes that hit Oklahoma and rural parts of Kansas and Nebraska.

The worst damage seemed to be in the Oklahoma City area. A twister destroyed homes at Bridge Creek, Amber and Blanchard, southwest of the city, and it appeared another tornado touched down later Wednesday

evening when a second storm came through the area.

"We have damage reports, so we do strongly think there was a tornado on the south side of Oklahoma City," meteorologist Michael Scotten with the National Weather Service in Norman said after the second storm that hit around 8:40 p.m.

That storm flipped vehicles on Interstate 35 and left power lines strewn across the roadway, Scotten said.

It wasn't immediately clear whether anyone was hurt. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol and an ambulance company spokeswoman both said emergency personnel were sent to the scene, though no injuries were

immediately reported.

In Grady County, about 25 miles southwest of Oklahoma City, a zoo was hit by a tornado, prompting concerns that animals could be on the loose. Alisa Voegeli, a dispatcher at the sheriff's office, said the zoo's owner and a deputy were on scene Wednesday night inspecting the damage.



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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Governor's Conference Room located in the first floor of the Juan A. Sablan Building on Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following agenda will be discussed:

- I. PRELIMINARIES:
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:
- III. REPORTS:
 - A. Chairman's Report
 - B. Executive Director's Report
- IV. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. Review and Approval of Licensing Application Forms
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in Executive Session.)

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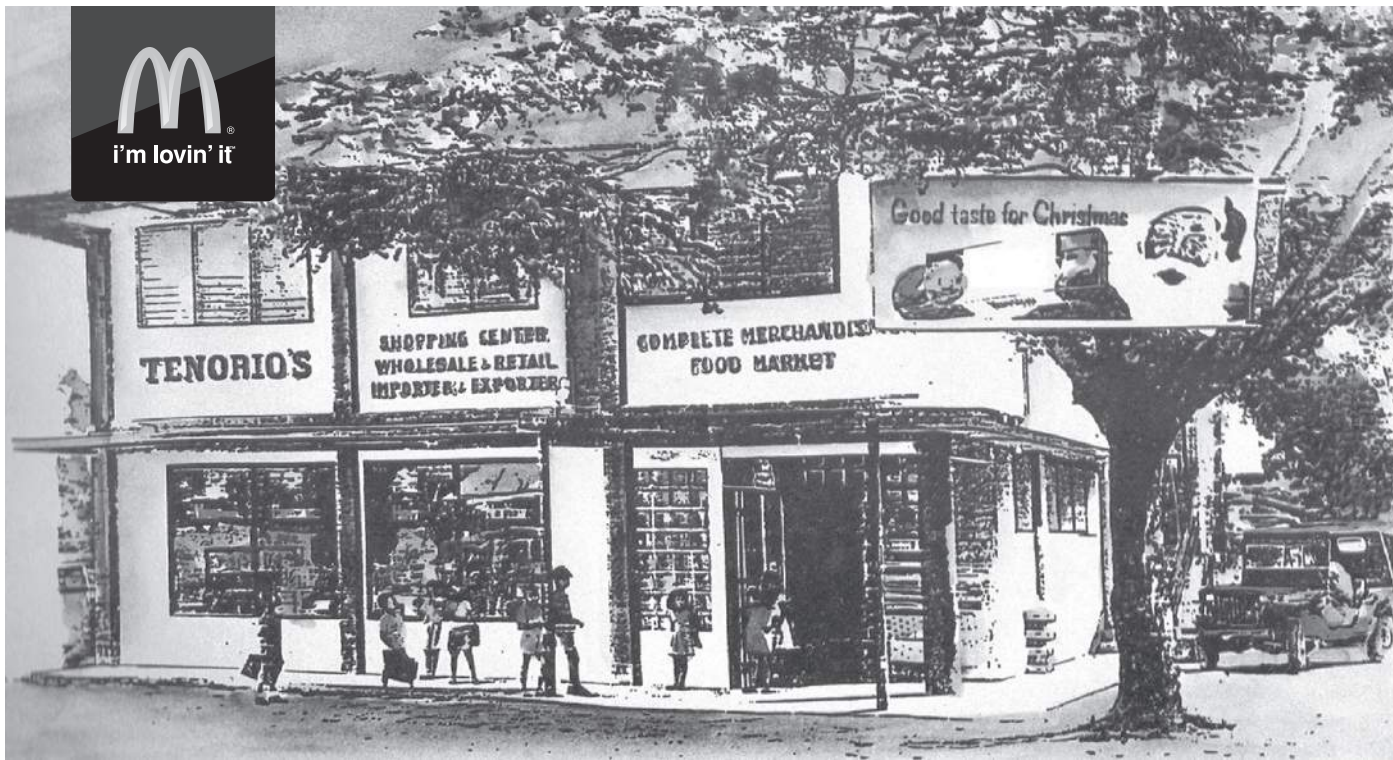
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Texas incident fuels concern about lone-wolf terror attacks

NEW YORK (AP)—The attempted attack on a provocative cartoon contest in Texas appears to reflect a scenario that has long troubled national security officials: a do-it-yourself terror plot, inspired by the Islamic State extremist group and facilitated through the ease of social media.

Trying to gauge which individuals in the United States pose such threats—and how vigorously they should be monitored—is a daunting challenge for counterterrorism agencies. Some experts caution that a limited number of small-scale attacks are likely to continue.

Michael McCaul, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said federal authorities are aware of “thousands” of potential extremists living in the U.S., only a small portion of whom are under active surveillance.

Concerns have been intensifying since the rise of the Islamic State group and were heightened this week after two gunmen were shot dead while trying to attack the event in Garland, Texas, that featured cartoon images of the Prophet Muhammad. One of the men, Elton Simpson of Phoenix, was charged in 2010 after being the focus of a terror investigation; investigators are trying to determine the extent of any terror-related ties involving him or his accomplice, Nadir Soofi.

At the White House, Press Secretary Josh Earnest said intelligence officials would be investigating Islamic State’s claim of responsibility.

“This is consistent with what has previously been described as a lone-wolf attack,” Earnest said. “Essentially you have two individuals that don’t appear to be part of a broader conspiracy, and identifying those individuals and keeping tabs on them is difficult work.”

Terrorism experts say the spread of social media, and savvy use of it by extremist groups, has facilitated a new wave of relatively small-scale plots that are potentially easy to carry out and harder for law enforcement to anticipate.

While plots orchestrated by al-Qaida have historically involved grandiose plans designed to yield mass carnage—including airline bombings or attacks on transportation systems—the Islamic State group has endorsed less ambitious efforts that its leaders say can have the same terrorizing effect.

“If you can get your hands on a weapon, how is the state security apparatus supposed to find you?” said Will McCants, a fellow in the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington. “It’s attractive because it gets just as much attention as a small- to mid-size bomb.”

Clinton challenges Bush on immigration as GOP shifts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton has injected new fire into the immigration debate with her call to allow people in the country illegally to gain citizenship, challenging a centerpiece of Republican presidential prospect Jeb Bush’s likely candidacy.

The elevated focus on immigration shines new light on the growing willingness of Republican presidential contenders—including past opponents of an immigration overhaul in Congress—to let such immigrants stay in the U.S. Such a position is regarded as “amnesty” by the GOP’s tea party wing, yet it is quietly becoming the majority view in a 2016 Republican presidential class eager to attract Hispanic voters.

Clinton is just as eager to protect the Democrats’ advantage with that key voting bloc. “This will be a defining issue in the election,” Clinton campaign manager Robby Mook told CNBC on Wednesday.

The day before, Clinton drew a sharp distinction between herself and the Republicans, like Bush, who support a pathway to legal status that stops short of citizenship.

“When they talk about legal

status, that is code for second-class status,” Clinton charged.

It’s unclear how much the distinction between citizenship and legal status matters to Hispanic voters, a growing slice of the electorate nationally and an important factor in presidential swing states such as Florida, Colorado and Nevada. For many, the priority is simply to avoid deportation.

The rhetoric of the GOP’s candidates reflects broad support for allowing such immigrants to stay, but only Bush has made that point a focus of his message to voters.

As he does in most public appearances, Bush cited “11 million people that should come out from the shadows and receive earned legal status” at last week’s speech to the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference. Such immigrants, he said, should be required to pay taxes, work and not receive government benefits.

Bush’s aides view Clinton’s comments as a direct criticism and a sign that Democrats are worried about losing Hispanic votes to him. Bush is fluent in Spanish and uses it in his campaign. His wife is from Mexico, and he has lived in Venezuela and Puerto Rico.



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Asia

Nepal's quake-damaged homes inspected



AP

An elderly Nepalese walks past a damaged temple performing rituals to end the mourning period of a family member who died in the April 25 earthquake, in Bhaktapur, Nepal, Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—More than a thousand engineers were checking damaged houses in Nepal's capital Wednesday and advising people about whether they are safe.

About 13,000 families have requested inspections of their homes since the massive magnitude-7.8 earthquake near Kathmandu on April 25, Nepal Engineers Association General Secretary Kishore Kumar Jha said. More than 7,600 people died in the quake.

The association, which has 2,000 civil and structural engineers, has set up phone lines for

people to request inspections.

"We have been receiving calls constantly. We are trying to reach as many people as possible," Jha said.

About 40 percent of the damaged houses inspected so far were considered safe, he said.

It is still unclear how many houses were damaged in the capital and how many are repairable.

Some modern buildings—including upscale hotels and expensive homes—appear to have escaped largely unscathed. But there is widespread damage in poorer neighborhoods.

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4 Afghan men sentenced to death over mob killing

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Four Afghan men were sentenced Wednesday to death by hanging over the filmed mob killing in downtown Kabul of a young woman falsely accused of burning the Quran, a case that horrified the country and showed the dangers women face in the conservative society. But the family of the 27-year-old woman, a religious scholar named Farkhuna, immediately denounced the verdict as unfair as the judge dropped charges against 18 men for a lack of evidence. Judge Safullah Mojadedi sentenced eight others to 16 years in prison. Nineteen police officers accused in the case will be sentenced Saturday, their verdicts publicly announced the next day.

PH volcano ejects ash, but no violent eruption

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine volcano has spewed ash for the second time in less than a week but there were no signs of any imminent violent eruption, the country's chief volcano expert said Thursday. Mount Bulusan in Sorsogon province southeast of Manila ejected ash 250 meters (825 feet) above the 1,565-meter (5,165-foot) volcano late Wednesday, said Re-

nato Solidum, director of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology. The agency asked local officials to keep people away from a 4-kilometer (2.5-mile) hazardous zone around the crater, he said. He said aircraft should not fly close to the mountain to avoid any sudden explosions and ash clouds. Solidum said the explosion was due to ground water coming into contact with hot rocks and not rising magma.

New Zealander, 25, stands trial in China on drug charges

GUANGZHOU, China (AP)—A 25-year-old New Zealander is standing trial in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou on drug smuggling charges. Peter Gardner, who also has Australian citizenship, was detained in Guangzhou on Nov. 8 when police said he was trying to smuggle more than 30 kilograms (66 pounds) of methamphetamine out of China. Gardner was detained along with a 22-year-old Australian woman who was later released. Gardner could face the death penalty if convicted. He arrived Thursday morning at the Guangzhou Intermediate People's Court building in a police truck. Relatives and Australian consular officials also attended the proceedings.



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World

UK's Cameron fights for political life

LONDON (AP)—David Cameron's supporters paint him as a principled but pragmatic politician with a huge capacity for quick thinking and grace under pressure.



Cameron

Opponents depict the 48-year-old Conservative leader as a privileged smoothie who hates to break a sweat.

Cameron, who has been Britain's prime minister since 2010, is fighting for his political life in Thursday's election, which polls say is too close to call. If he fails to win a second term against Labour's Ed Miliband, he will almost certainly be dumped as Tory leader.

"I think he would be less devastated than most people, just because he is more of a human being than most politicians," said James Hanning, co-author of the biography "Cameron: Practically a Conservative."

Cameron is often depicted in the press as the prime minister who likes to "chillax." Observers have struggled to pinpoint what he believes in, and what has driven him to the top of British politics.

The son of a stockbroker, Cam-

eron attended Eton, the country's most elite boarding school, which counts Princes William and Harry among its alumni.

At Oxford University, he studied politics, philosophy and economics and was a member of the Bullingdon Club, a rowdy dining-and-drinking society with a reputation for drunken vandalism.

After graduating, Cameron began work as a researcher for the Conservatives and rose quickly through the party, with a spell in PR for TV company Carlton Communications.

He was elected to Parliament in 2001 and chosen as party leader in 2005, when the Conservatives had lost three successive elections to Tony Blair's Labour. Cameron, another young modernizer, was branded the "heir to Blair" in the press.

In his first years as leader, he articulated a type of compassionate Conservatism, describing his vision of a "Big Society" built on neighborliness and volunteering. In government, he legalized same-sex marriage, despite the opposition of Tory traditionalists.

Germanwings co-pilot practiced descents hours before the crash

PARIS (AP)—The co-pilot of Germanwings Flight 9525 appears to have practiced sending the jetliner into a deadly descent on another flight, just two hours before he intentionally crashed it into the French Alps, investigators said Wednesday.

The revelation appeared to support the theory that the Germanwings crash was not only deliberate but premeditated. It came in a 30-page interim report from the French accident investigation agency BEA.

Authorities are still puzzling over why Andreas Lubitz, who had suffered from suicidal tendencies and depression in the past, locked the captain out of the cockpit on March 24 and sent the Airbus A320 hurtling into a mountain, killing all 150 people on board.

Lubitz seemed to be toying with the airplane's settings on the earlier flight from Dusseldorf to Barcelona, programming it for a sharp descent multiple times in a 4 1/2-minute period while the pilot was out of the cockpit before resetting the controls, the report said. Unlike the later flight, he did not lock the pilot out of the cockpit.

The plane's "selected altitude" changed repeatedly and several times was set as low as 100 feet (30 meters) above sea level. The report says Lubitz

also put the engines on idle, which gives the plane the ability to quickly descend.

On the doomed flight from Barcelona to Dusseldorf, Lubitz also set a 100-foot altitude before the plane crashed into the Alps.

Aviation experts say it would be highly unusual for a pilot to repeatedly set a plane for such a low altitude for no apparent reason. The report said Lubitz did so while air traffic controllers were asking him to bring the airplane down gradually from 35,000 feet to 21,000 feet for its descent to Barcelona.

A BEA chart showed the plane didn't actually descend sharply while Lubitz was repeatedly adjusting the settings, so the passengers and crew might not have noticed any change.

"The captain didn't realize at all, because the co-pilot's tests during the outgoing flight took place during a normal, preprogrammed descent and it never had an impact on the plane's trajectory," said Remi Jouty, the director of BEA.

Aviation experts said the BEA findings were clearly unusual.

Lubitz changed the setting in the "altitude select" window, although the airplane didn't move in response to the inputs, said aviation safety expert John Cox, president of Safety Operating Systems.

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Off The Wall

Woman seeking man she kissed at marathon hears from his wife

BOSTON (AP)—A Tennessee woman searching for the stranger she kissed while running the Boston Marathon this year says she finally heard back—from the mystery man’s wife.

Barbara Tatge says her daughter had dared her to kiss

a random, good-looking man as she ran through the town of Wellesley, where the women of Wellesley College traditionally offer kisses to runners.

After the April 20 race, her daughter took to social media to try to find the man, who clearly left an impression on her mom.

Tatge says The Wellesley Townsman, a Boston-area news outlet, passed on a letter addressed to her Sunday after the campaign generated nationwide attention.

The unidentified man’s wife said the attention was fun but

that the couple wanted to remain anonymous.

“When this story aired on the news we were pretty surprised,” the mystery man’s wife wrote in a portion of the letter quoted by The Townsman. “For me, I’m not mad. Believe me, our friends have gotten a lot of mileage out of this story and I have thoroughly enjoyed watching them give my husband grief!”

The wife continued: “While this may not be the ending that you had hoped for, that spontaneous, silly moment in Welles-

ley captured the fun, energy and spirit of the Boston Marathon. I greatly admire your spunk and courage and wish you many happy races in the future. Congratulations on your Boston finish!”

Tatge says she wrote back to the wife Monday, thanking her for her graciousness and good humor.

“The letter was so kind and good-hearted,” she said. “She’s a great sport, and he’s fortunate to be married to someone like her.”

Tatge also apologized for any embarrassment the search may

have caused.

“I just wanted her to know that the media firestorm stemmed from my loving daughter’s good-hearted dare,” she said. “I didn’t want to cause any discomfort to him or his family.”

Tatge said she’s been touched by the support she’s received but is happy to move on.

She also hopes to run the Boston Marathon again but with one important caveat: “Moving forward, I’m going to revert to only kissing single men.”

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP15-DCCA/NAP-036

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For any questions, please call ms. Laura t. Ogumoro, secretary of dcca at (670) 664-2584

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/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
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(1) FRONT OFFICE MANAGER

Applicant must have the ability to manage all aspects of the Front Office operations, including a Guest Relation, Call Center, and Guest Service operations; Must have the ability to set Front Office Budget, monitor Profit and Loss. Minimum of five (5) years of hotel/hospitality is required. Minimum of two (2) years of previous experience managing the Front Office of a hotel is required. Excellent Leadership with written and oral communication skills is necessary. Must have the ability to set an upsell program and work as part of the Yield Management team in maximize revenue for the hotel. Must computer knowledge on as PMS-Property Management System, Opera. Must be able to speak and understand one or more of the following languages: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(4) KIDS CLUB ASSISTANT

Applicants must be able to pass/obtain First Aid/CPR certification, Must be comfortable in the water and be able to swim. Applicant must have previous experience working with children. Applicant must be at least 16 years of age. Ability to comprehend and speak Japanese, Korean or Russian language is preferred. Strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills are essential. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. Must be able to work under flexible schedule including morning hours, weekends and holidays.

(1) MERCHANDISER

Applicant must have a minimum of one (1) year of work experience handling clerical work involved with receiving, storing, stocking, inventory and distribution of supplies for the Boutiki store. Must have good computer skills and have the ability to bend, lift, carry, push, reach and handle inventory supplies weighing 50-75 pounds. Must have the ability to speak, read and comprehend the English language. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

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(1) PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT

Applicant must have a minimum six (6) months of work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ROOM ATTENDANT

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(1) SALES & MARKETING MANAGER – JAPAN MARKET

Applicant must have a minimum of two (2) years of Sales experience in the hotel industry is required. Four (4) years College degree preferred. Proficiency in Japanese language (verbal, written, reading and understanding) as well as Japanese MS Office, Epitome, and Japanese hotel booking systems is required. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.

(1) SEA INFORMATION / CASHIER

Applicant must be able to pass American Red Cross First Aid/CPR certification courses. Applicant must possess strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills. The position requires a minimum of six (6) months of previous work experience in a cash handling position. The ability to comprehend and speak Japanese, Korean or Russian language is preferred but not required. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. The applicant must be able to stand for long periods of time. The applicant must be able to work a flexible schedule which includes early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) S.E.A. SCHEDULER/CLUBMATE

Applicant must be a certified American Red Cross lifeguard with a minimum of three years of experience. Must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills. Must have working knowledge of Microsoft Word and be proficient with Microsoft Excel, with the ability to work well under pressure. Strong attention to detail and the ability to work under deadlines are necessary qualifications for the S.E.A Scheduler. Applicants must be versed in the operations and rotations of the S.E.A department. Position will be asked to work various shifts in the hotels’ waterpark, so sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply. Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skills preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

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Applicant must have experience in reviewing and analyzing web analytics tools; Must be proficient in the use of Apple MC, MS Office, HTML and web design; Must be proficient in graphic design software in a MAC environment using: Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6.0, Adobe Indesign and Adobe Illustrator; Must have strong organizational skills along with the ability to create high visual impact design. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.

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RFP NO.: RFP15-BECQ/DCRM-069

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 21, 2015 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

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QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT CAN BE MADE TO REBECCA SKEELE BY PHONE, (670) 664-8313, OR BY E-MAIL AT skeele.crm@gmail.com, NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **MAY 12, 2015**, CHAMORRO STANDARD TIME, UTC +10 HOURS (E-MAIL IS PREFERRED). RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH OTHER PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAU LIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY • CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP15-BECQ/DCRM-089

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 22, 2015 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**“TO COMPLETE A 2015 SAIPAN LAGOON USER SURVEY,
FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY, DIVISION OF
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT”**

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER APRIL 24, 2015 AT THE BECQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO skeele.crm@gmail.com.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT CAN BE MADE TO REBECCA SKEELE BY PHONE, (670) 664-8313, OR BY E-MAIL AT skeele.crm@gmail.com, NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **MAY 13, 2015**, CHAMORRO STANDARD TIME, UTC +10 HOURS (E-MAIL IS PREFERRED). RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH OTHER PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

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/S/ FRANK M. RABAU LIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Name: Rev. Pedro Miral
Address: P.O. Box 504310 CK, Saipan
Phone: 989-3922

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In re the Matter of Adoption For: R.L.M.) FCD-AD) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 15-0220)))
by) ORDER
Rev. Pedro Miral) SHORTENING
Ma. Teresita Miral) TIME
Petitioner(s),)	AND NOTICE OF HEARING

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, It is hereby ordered that the time for notice of hearing for Petitioner(s) petition be shortened and that the hearing be set on May 18, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2015.

GRANTED

/S/
Hon. Kenneth L. Govendo
Judge

Stephanie V. Aldan
P.O. Box 501413 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 288-7968

PRO SE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF AS GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE OF: D.A.M 12/23/09 Minor Child By STEPHANIE V. ALDAN AND JOSEPH A. MANIBUSAN Petitioners	} FCD GU CIVIL ACTION 15-0207 }-NOTICE OF HEARING
---	---

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor child by Stephanie A. & Joseph M., Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior Court before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on the 18th day of June, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

**TINIAN CASINO GAMING
CONTROL COMMISSION**

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ¹

III. REPORTS

- a. Chair’s Report
- b. Executive Director’s Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Management of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Policy & Procedure re Investigative Fees Account
- b. Ratification of Table Movement Requests
- c. Licensing Matters
 - 1. Casino Key Employee License Applications
 - 2. Casino Employee License Applications
 - 3. Hotel Registrations
 - 4. Casino Service Industry License Applications

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION ²

VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

¹ Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

jail time. The Winchester Star reports that 31-year-old Andrea Edwards of Stephens City was given a two-year sentence Tuesday in Winchester City Circuit Court with time suspended. That means Edwards won’t serve jail time. According to a criminal complaint, Edwards obtained a stool sample from a patient she had tested in the lab. It had tested positive for a type of bacteria known to cause infection, diarrhea, stomach pain and death. The complaint says she took the sample from the lab to the office area and put it on the co-worker’s mouse and chair.

Woman celebrates 21st birthday performing 21 kind acts

BRISTOL, Tenn. (AP)—A Tennessee woman celebrated her 21st birthday by performing 21 acts of kindness to people she had never met across the city of Bristol. The Bristol Herald Courier reports Alexa Sexton and a few friends traveled across the city to complete the task on April 25, including taking food to people in the waiting rooms of a hospital and taking breakfast to firefighters. Sexton says she was spoiled and thought the world revolved around her until about a year ago when she was baptized. She says her mentality changed and she wanted to affect people by kindness. Sexton says she plans to continue the tradition.

Sheriff: Woman held for driving wrong way while drunk, naked

GRANT TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—Michigan authorities say they arrested a naked drunken woman who was driving the wrong way after leaving her naked husband and their child at a rest stop. The Clare County sheriff’s department says 23-year-old Jessie Schaub-Devault of Harrison left her husband and child along U.S. 127 about 4:30 a.m. Tuesday. It’s in Grant Township, about 15 miles north of Mount Pleasant. The department says Schaub-Devault refused to stop but eventually got out of her SUV and ran before being arrested.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Cowboys round up cattle after semi overturns on highway

MAIZE, Kan. (AP)—A Kansas highway has reopened after cowboys helped round up cattle who escaped a semitrailer that had rolled over near Wichita. The Kansas Highway Patrol says Kansas 96 near Maize reopened about noon. It was closed when the truck crashed around 4 a.m. Wednesday northwest of Wichita. The driver was not hurt. The driver was hauling about 60 cattle from Hutchinson to Eureka. About five cattle died in the accident. Several others escaped the truck and roamed near the highway. Cowboys and animal control workers were called in to corral the cattle and get them into another truck.

Woman spread feces on co-worker’s chair, mouse; no jail time

WINCHESTER, Va. (AP)—A former Virginia lab worker has pleaded guilty to spreading contaminated feces on a co-worker’s computer mouse and desk chair, but she won’t see any



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- ☞ Foster care families
- ☞ Homeless families

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- ☞ Head Start Program Application;
- ☞ Proof of all family income stubs for the last 12 months such as, 1040 and W2, pay check stubs, statement from employer, child support, student financial aid, retirement benefits, LES;
- ☞ Child's birth certificate;
- ☞ Child's Medicaid or other medical insurance coverage;
- ☞ Documentation of participation in WIC, NAP, LIHEAP, and/or housing assistance;
- ☞ Parent(s)/guardian(s) photo ID;
- ☞ Legal documents relating to guardianship or custody;
- ☞ Copy of IEP for children with disabilities;
- ☞ SSI documentation, if applicable.

**APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL HEAD START CENTERS AND
AT THE HEAD START OFFICES IN CAPITOL HILL
BUILDINGS 1256 & 1259**

Head Start Centers will be closed
beginning on June 10,
please visit our offices
or call us after that date.

The CNMI PSS Head Start Program
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transportation services.



PLEASE CALL 323-7446/7447 OR 322-1739 FOR MORE INFORMATION!



COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147

Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR BOND TRUSTEE SERVICES 2015-CDA-04-RFP

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 3, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA), are soliciting proposals for bond trustee services.

The original and six (6) copies of a proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Chamorro Standard Time (Chst) on May 23, 2015. No proposals will be accepted after that date and time. Proposals shall be in sealed envelopes marked "Proposal for Bond Trustee Services" and delivered to the attention of:

Mr. Herman S. Sablan,
Director Division of Procurement and Supply (P&S)
Department of Finance
Government of the Northern Mariana Islands
Lower Base
Saipan, MP 96950

Copies of the RFP package may be obtained from the CDA office, CDA Building in San Jose, Saipan. Electronic copies of the Proposal will not be accepted. The CDA reserves the right to reject any proposal that in its sole determination is not in the best interest of the CNMI Government.

/s/
Manuel A. Sablan
CDA Executive Director

/s/
Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate **\$3,563,034.00** in LIHTCs for the 2015 program year.

Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at www.nmhc.gov.mp.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **\$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, July 31, 2015**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **August 17, 2015**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **4:30 pm August 31, 2015**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **September 2015** Board Meeting.

Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs thirty (30) days following the September 2015 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

ARFF BUILDING ROOF REPAIRS PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-002-15 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting for sealed proposals for the repairs of the roof at the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. The work shall include all materials, labor and equipment necessary to achieve a finished product, including but not limited to the items in the scope of work and those shown on the layout.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"Proposal for Roof Repairs at the ARFF Station, CPA-SA-002-15"**. One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposer shall submit with their proposal the following:

1. Letter of interest;
2. Project Approach;
3. Construction Team;
4. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
5. Available resources to accomplish the project;
6. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
7. Valid CNMI Business License.

Proposers shall also with their proposal a statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that the contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

A site visit may be requested by each proposer and will be coordinated with the ARFF personnel.

The Scope of Work (SOW) and layout may be picked up at the CPA Administration Office at no cost. Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package. An electronic copy of the layout can be made available upon request to Ms. Wendi Prater at email address wprater@cpa.gov.mp.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Total cost for construction | 45% |
| 2. Experience of the firm on similar or related projects | 25% |
| 3. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff | 20% |
| 4. Project Approach | 10% |

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Upon award, contractor shall execute performance and payment bonds for 100% of the contract amount from a CPA approved surety prior to commencement of work.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120)** calendar days. Liquidated damages of \$200.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA.

CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: April 13, 2015

Science & Technology

Study: Top tech firms bypassing Asian workers for exec jobs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google, Yahoo and other major technology companies are far more inclined to hire Asians as computer programmers than to promote them to become managers or executives, according to a study released Wednesday.

The analysis uncovered a glaring imbalance between the number of Asian technology

workers in non-management jobs and the number in leadership positions in Silicon Valley.

Ascend, a group focused on Asian business issues, based its conclusions on 2013 data filed with U.S. employment regulators by five Silicon Valley companies—Google Inc., Yahoo Inc., Intel Corp., Hewlett-Packard Co. and LinkedIn Corp.

“If you step in the cafeteria of

any of these five companies, you will see plenty of Asian talent around,” said Denise Peck, a co-author of the Ascend study and former vice president at computer networking equipment maker Cisco Systems. “It’s only when you walk into the executive suites at these companies that you might see a problem.”

Google declined to com-

ment on Ascend’s report. Intel and Yahoo reiterated earlier commitments to diversify their workforces. LinkedIn and HP didn’t immediately respond to inquiries.

Ascend’s findings may raise more questions about ethnic and gender biases in Silicon Valley at a time when the technology industry is already under attack for its hiring practices. The

study is coming out on the same day that civil rights leader Jesse Jackson and his Rainbow Push organization are holding a summit in San Francisco as part of a year-old campaign to pressure tech companies into hiring and promoting more mi-

norities and women.

Most of the criticism has been spurred by the release of employment data showing an abnormally low percentage of women, blacks and Hispanics who have programming and engineering jobs.

TECH Q&A

How to fix a sporadic Internet connection

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: Our five-year-old HP desktop PC frequently loses its Comcast Internet connection, and we get the error message “You are not connected to a network.” The outage doesn’t last long, but it often interferes with logging onto a bank or investment website.

The outages began before we got our most recent Comcast-provided modem-router, to which our Windows 7 PC is connected by cable. Another cable goes from the modem router to our basement, where it joins the cable line from our TV before leaving the house. We’ve checked for most routine problems already, and are thinking about resetting our Internet Protocol (IP) address next. What should we do?—Jim and Karon Bachman, Blaine, Minn.

A: There are two likely causes: Your PC or the way the Comcast cable is installed.

But before pursuing those issues, make sure you’ve tried all

the routine fixes for a Comcast cable Internet connection, such as tightening the cables. See tinyurl.com/o4ozz2z.

We can rule out a faulty modem-router as a connection issue, since the problem predates the latest one Comcast supplied to you. And because it’s a long-running problem, I don’t think resetting your IP address will help. Comcast already resets it periodically.

To check for a flaw in your PC, unplug the cable that connects the PC to the modem-router. Then connect the PC to the wireless portion of the router via Wi-Fi. For directions on how to enable Wi-Fi on your PC, see “Use HP Support Assistant network diagnostics” at tinyurl.com/p2lsaz6.

If your Wi-Fi Internet connection is stable, there’s something wrong with the PC’s network card, which controls the wired Internet connection. Ask a repair shop for help.

But, if the wireless Internet connection suffers from the same outages as the wired connection, the problem may originate in the basement, where the Comcast cable splits into its TV and PC branches. If that splitter connection isn’t tight, the splitter is faulty, or the signal branching to your PC is on the borderline of being too weak, your Internet connection could be interrupted. Fixing that would be a job for Comcast.

Q: I have two e-commerce sites from which I receive email. But I’m having trouble sorting my mail because the search function on my Microsoft Outlook 2010 email program isn’t working properly. It can’t search for any emails that have been sent recently. Any ideas?—Thomas Larson, Buffalo, Minn.

A: This can happen if Windows hasn’t finished indexing the emails for which you’re searching, or if the indexing process hasn’t been set up correctly. To deal with either problem, see tinyurl.com/o8dmnz2. In addition, you can check to see if Outlook has reported any problems in the “Windows Application Log.” You can find the log by pressing the Windows logo key and the R key simultaneously, typing “eventvwr.msc” in the box and clicking OK.



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Life & Style

Scientific study: Beatles, Stones eclipsed by hip-hop impact

LONDON (AP)—The impact of hip-hop's arrival on the pop music scene eclipsed that of the Beatles-led British invasion of 1964, a computer analysis of 17,000 songs has found.

The unusual study found

three revolutions on the charts: the 1991 emergence of rap and hip-hop on mainstream charts; the synth-led new wave movement of 1983, and the advent of the Beatles, Rolling Stones, The Who and other British rockers in the early 1960s.

Although the Beatles—paced

by the songwriting of John Lennon and Paul McCartney—enjoy perhaps the highest place in critics' esteem, the researchers found the hip-hop movement—from pioneers like Afrika Bambaataa to megastars like Jay-Z—more profound.

They wrote that the rise of

rap and related genres represents "the single most important event that has shaped the musical structure of the American charts in the period we studied."

By contrast, the British bands—heavily influenced by U.S. stars like Chuck Berry and

Little Richard—were found to have followed existing trends.

That finding may trouble Beatles fans who think rock 'n' roll was invented with "Please Please Me" and "She Loves You." And it does not address why the Rolling Stones can still sell out arenas more than 50 years after they set the London club scene on fire with a British take on Chicago blues.

The study, released on Wednesday, was conducted by the University of London and Imperial College.

The researchers analyzed 30-second snippets of roughly 17,000 songs from the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 charts from 1960 to 2010.

Computer programs were used to categorize each song based on musical properties, instrumentation used, chord patterns and other elements.

Lead author Matthias Mauch said some may disagree with this scientific approach to a very personal subject but asserted the study breaks new ground.

"For the first time we can measure musical properties in recordings on a large scale," he said. "We can actually go beyond what music experts tell us, or what we know ourselves about them, by looking directly into the songs, measuring their make-up, and understanding how they have changed."

Geena Davis launches Arkansas film fest for women, diversity

LOS ANGELES (AP)—With help from a slew of corporate sponsors, Geena Davis and filmmakers focused on women and diversity have taken over Bentonville, Arkansas, a city of 40,000 best known as Wal-Mart's home base.

While it's not the first film festival to specialize in diversity, Davis said it's the only film competition to promise theatrical releases for winning entries.

"It's unheard of in the world, actually," the Oscar-winner said in a telephone interview before opening the festival Tuesday. "It's the only festival offering distribution across theatrical, digital and on TV and on DVD. ... That's just part of our push to show how commercial diverse films can be."

About 75 films will be screened over the four-day festival, which will also include panel discussions and a celebratory "A League of Their Own" base-

ball game, featuring appearances by Rosie O'Donnell and two original members of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League.

Davis plans to expand the festival beyond Bentonville to

include educational outreach and events throughout the year. Founder of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media in 2007, the actress plans to bring the research amassed by her organization to film schools and colleges around the country.

"It's very important to educate the next generation of content creators before they even start their professional careers," she said. "Once it's brought to (filmmakers') attention, once they hear the numbers, they're just stunned and horrified... how much gender bias there is and lack of diversity."



Davis

For example, research funded by Davis' institute and conducted by the University of Southern California found that women—who constitute more than half of the U.S. population—typically comprise just 17 percent of on-screen crowd scenes.

"That is one of the most shocking things when people hear it," Davis said. "And one of the things very often they'll say is, 'Let's just change that immediately.'"

A favorite catch-phrase of the Geena Davis Institute is "If she can see it, she can be it."

"In pretty much every sector of society, female leadership has stalled out in about the same range—interestingly, also around 17 percent," Davis said. "It's going to take a long time no matter how hard we work. We can't snap our fingers and

tomorrow Congress is 50 percent women.

"But the one area of gross imbalance that can be changed overnight is on screen, because they very next movie somebody makes can be gender balanced."

Man pleads not guilty to stalking actress Sandra Bullock

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man arrested inside Sandra Bullock's home has pleaded not guilty to stalking the Oscar-winning actress.

Joshua Corbett entered the plea Wednesday in a Los Angeles courtroom in his first court appearance after a judge determined last month that he



Bullock

should stand trial in the case.

The 39-year-old was arrested inside Bullock's residence in June 2014. The "Gravity" star was forced to hide in her closet and directed police through her home in a 15-minute 911 call.

Authorities later found a cache of illegal weapons, including machine guns and an assault weapon at Corbett's home. He was not carrying any firearms when he was arrested at Bullock's home.

A judge set a tentative trial date for July 6.

Corbett has undergone mental health evaluations while in custody.

Harris Faulkner considered rising star at Fox

NEW YORK (AP)—Harris Faulkner's hobby may sound like a patriotic put-on, but the Fox News Channel anchor insists it's legit.

"The thing that I really love to do, that I now only do in the shower, is to sing the national anthem," said Faulkner, a regular on Fox's daytime show "Outnumbered."

While you clear that image of a shower gel bottle doubling as a hand-held mic, know that Faulkner belted out "The Star Spangled Banner" in public before Kansas City Chiefs and Minnesota Timberwolves games. She sang it so much in the newsroom at a Kansas City television station that a colleague secretly arranged her public debut.

Faulkner, 49, is considered a rising star at Fox News after a

decade there. Besides "Outnumbered," which just celebrated its first full year on the air, she regularly works six-day weeks by anchoring a Sunday evening newscast.

"She's a go-to person around here," said Jay Wallace, Fox's senior vice president of news. Her energy and willingness to put in the extra work has endeared her to management, he said.

The noontime "Outnumbered" has worked beyond its mildly sexist premise, where four women arrayed on a couch kick around the day's news with one male panelist. Faulkner's news chops make her the closest thing to a ringleader. Sandra Smith of Fox Business Network



Faulkner

and commentator Andrea Tantaros are the other regulars. The fourth woman, and the man, are rotated in. "Outnumbered" guys have included Fox regulars like Ed Henry and Bill Hemmer and guests like Terry Bradshaw and Gene Simmons.

"The show is a mix of hard news, tough topics and a little bit of that 'girls go to Vegas' thing mixed in," Faulkner said.

As is typical for Fox shows, it beats its news competition. March's average viewership of 1.32 million was more than CNN and MSNBC combined in the time slot, the Nielsen company said. In some markets, "Outnumbered" does as well as network shows like "The View" or "The Talk."

In Loving Memory

+ Donicio San Nicolas Reyes

of Tinian, was called to his
Eternal Life on May 4, 2015
(Monday) at the age of 80.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Wife: †Rosa Cruz Reyes
Parents: †Vicente Cruz Reyes
& †Maria Guzman San Nicolas

Father and

Mother In-Law: †Vicente Taitingfong Cruz & †Ana Lizama Cruz

Brothers, Sisters

and In-Laws: †Joaquin & †Juana Reyes, †Benbinido & †Vicenta Reyes, †Prudencio & †Delgadina Reyes, †Jose & †Catalina Reyes, †Mariano & †Beatrice Reyes, †Luis & †Antonia Reyes, †Ursula Reyes, †Estefania & †Tobias Muna, †Ana R. & †Jose Castro, Remedio R. & †Ignacio Dela Cruz, †Alfonso Reyes, †Maximina R. & †Eduardo Flores

His love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of his:

Children: Bernadita C. Reyes (Michael, Sylvester)
Ursula C. Reyes / Mike Vichels (Dimitri, Anisha)
Ana R. / Thomas Erickson (Roque, Ringo, Melvalyn, Rino, Mercy Ann, Thomas Jr. Edith Tammie)
Joan R. / Gilbert M. Cabrera (Gilbert Jr., Trinn Rose, Rosa Ann, Ana Marie, Jilvanny, Juan Vicente)
Marie R. / Edward Shai (Eldred, Mildred, Elgene, Melgirene)
Donicio Jr. C. / Trinidad C. Reyes (Kiara, Lawrence)
Vincent C. / Nieves U. Reyes (Donicio III, Vincent Jr, Nicky)
Joe John C. / Aileen Taitano (Dorsha, Moses, Joe John Jr., Becky Ann, Joeleen)

Sister In-Law: Anuncia Reyes

She is additionally survived by numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews.

Rosary is being prayed nightly at the San Jose Church at 7:00 pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on May 12, 2015 at 10:00 am. Interment will follow thereafter at the San Jose Public Cemetery where our beloved Donicio will be laid to his final rest.

Un Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase ginen I Korason-mami

**Children, Grandchildren
& Great grandchildren**



Shifting in a new direction, Jack Black rides 'The D Train'

NEW YORK (AP)—At an East Village restaurant over dinner recently, after ordering mussels and selecting a white wine, Jack Black proffered a theatrical "Gratz!" to the waitress. He then leaned in expectantly, his gymnastic eyebrows raised, eagerly awaiting a response that didn't come.

"She didn't say 'Prego,' he said, slumping back into the booth, crestfallen.

Black was in town to promote his latest film, "The D Train," a black comedy about a status-obsessed family man organizing his high school reunion. Black had just come from taping the "Tonight Show," where he and Jimmy Fallon remade the music video to the Extreme ballad "More Than Words."

Sitting down to eat, he bel-lows: "If you want the scoop, you got to feed the beast!"

Four years ago, Black starred in Richard Linklater's "Bernie," a comedy about a true-life tale of a beloved small-town Texas mortician convicted of murder. The movie was smaller than Black's normal output ("Kung Fu Panda," "Gulliver's Travels," "Year One") but it was acclaimed. Black, it turned out, is an exceptional character actor.

"I was like: I want to make more of these movies that are weird and cool," he says. "No money because that's what happens when you make a weird movie. I was actively looking



AP
In this Jan. 23, 2015 file photo, Jack Black poses for a portrait to promote his film, "The D Train", at the Eddie Bauer Adventure House during the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

of the limelight. "I like to go swimming and just put on a record, listen to half, go in all wet, getting the floors all wet,

flip it and play the other side of that record."

"I don't have any famous pals, for instance," says Black, though he grants recently attending an Easter egg hunt at Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's house. "I like working with the people I've worked with—I'm very fortunate—but I don't keep in touch with them. I kind of live in a weird bubble."

Yoko Ono designs coffee cup line inspired by tragedies



AP
This image released by Illy North America shows a collection of espresso cups and saucers called, Yoko Ono: Mended Cups - illy Art Collection, featuring the dates and places of six tragic events written in Ono's handwriting.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Yoko Ono is expressing herself through espresso cups.

The artist and widow of John Lennon has designed a collection of cups and saucers featuring the dates and places of six tragic events written in Ono's handwriting, such as the atomic bombing of Hiroshima in 1945 and the day Lennon was shot and killed in 1980. A seventh cup appears untouched to represent hope.

The collection is titled "Yoko

Ono: Mended Cups - illy Art Collection" and is inspired by Kintsugi, the Japanese technique of repairing cracked pottery with brushstrokes of gold.

The cup line is being released alongside Ono's upcoming show at the Museum of Modern Art.

Other artists who have previously designed cups and saucers for illy include Jeff Koons, Pedro Almodovar, Robert Rauschenberg, Julian Schnabel and David Byrne.

Universal Orlando announces new King Kong ride for 2016

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—King Kong first appeared on screens in New York City in 1933, but next summer, he'll be in Florida, headlining a new thrill ride at Universal Orlando.

"Skull Island: Reign of Kong" will open in the summer of 2016 at Islands of Adventure.

Universal executives announced this week that guests participating in the "intense adventure" will board expedition trucks and forge through jungles, temple ruins and past prehistoric beasts before they come face to face with the oversized ape.

It will be one of Universal's longest rides and will have a 34-inch height requirement. The attraction will be partially indoors and partially outdoors and will involve flaming cauldrons and caves.

The new attraction will be nestled in between Toon Lagoon and Jurassic Park.

This isn't Kong's first rodeo at Universal Orlando. From 1990 until 2002, the Kongfrontation attraction was housed at Univer-

sal Studios. But that experience centered on Kong in New York.

Mike West, Universal Creative Executive Producer, said the ride takes guests into King Kong's home on Skull Island. Locating the ride "in Kong's home" as opposed to New York was a conscious decision on the part of the creative team, he said.

"We want to tell the next generation Kong's story," said West. "He's timeless."

In the 1933 version of "King Kong," Fay Wray played an unemployed actress who agrees to take a job with a movie company that is going on location to a mysterious island. Kong is the huge ape that inhabits a part of the island.

When the film company discovers the enormous gorilla, Kong is attracted to Wray and abducts her. But he is eventually captured and brought to New York and put on display. Kong escapes and finds Wray, with terrifying results, but eventually meets his death on the Empire State Building.

Death And Funeral Announcement Antonia Pangelinan Mcalister "Tonie / Antonia Inden"

(June 14, 1940 - April 30, 2015)

of Chalan Kanoa, was called home by our heavenly father at the age of 74.

In her new life, Tonie was met at the gates of heaven by her:

Husband: †William Albert Mcalister
Parents: †Antonio Manahane & †Isabel Concepcion Basa Pangelinan
Brothers: †Miguel & Jose Basa Pangelinan
Brother In- Law: †Sylvestre R. Kaipat
Sister In- Law: †Estella M. Pangelinan
Special Pet: †Paris Lee Hudson

Her spirit & memories will live forever in the hearts of her:

Son: Lawrence "Larry" Hudson (Tara Balajadia)
Grand Daughter: Quinn Gloria Hudson

Brothers/Sister (In- Laws): †Miguel B. Pangelinan (†Estella)
†Jose B. Pangelinan (Carmen)
Jesus B. Pangelinan
Maria P. Kaipat (†Sylvestre)
Thomas B. Pangelinan (Lupe)
Juan B. Pangelinan (Luna)

Tonie will be missed by numerous cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

Mass of Intention is being offered 6am daily, at the Mount Carmel Cathedral and 6pm nightly at the Dulce Nombre De Maria Cathedral-Basilica in Agaña, Guam. Last respects for Tonie will be held on Tuesday, May 12 from 9am to 11:30am at the Nuestra Señora De Las Aguas (Our Lady of the Waters) Church in Mongmong, Guam. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 12pm. Interment will follow at the Guam Memorial Park in Leyang, Barrigada, where we will bid her farewell and a peaceful rest.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase Ginen I Familian Inden

Larry Hudson



Francis Ford Coppola wins prestigious Spanish prize for arts

MADRID (AP)—Francis Ford Coppola, director of such classics as “The Godfather” trilogy and “Apocalypse Now,” has won Spain’s Princess of Asturias arts prize for his outstanding contribution to the world of film. The prize foundation on

Wednesday described the 76-year-old Coppola as “an exceptional narrator” who holds a prominent position in the history of cinema.

“The figure of Francis Ford Coppola is essential in understanding the transformation and contradictions of the cinema



Coppola

art and industry, to whose growth he has contributed decisively,” the foundation said.

Coppola’s “explorations into power and the horrors and absurdity of war have transcended his artistic work and become collective and universal icons of

contemporary imagination and culture,” it.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Coppola was brought up in New York. He has won many film awards, including six Oscars.

The 50,000-euro (\$64,330) Spanish award is one of eight Asturias prizes handed out yearly by a foundation named for Crown Princess Leonor. Others categories include social sciences, sports

and scientific research.

The awards, formerly called the Prince of Asturias prizes, were renamed last year after Leonor became crown princess when her father Felipe took the Spanish throne following the abdication of former King Juan Carlos. The awards are presented each fall in the northern city of Oviedo, capital of the Asturias region.

Texas’ top officer: Snoop Dogg is a ‘dope smoking cop hater’



AP

In this March 20, 2015 file photo, rapper Snoop Dogg takes part in the “Keynote Conversation with Snoop Dogg” at the South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas.

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Texas’ chief law enforcement official called Snoop Dogg a “dope smoking cop hater” before reprimanding a state trooper who posed for a picture with the rapper, according to emails made public Wednesday.

Snoop Dogg posted a photo to Instagram with Department of Public Safety Trooper Billy Spears in March with the comment “Me n my deputy dogg.” It was taken during the South by Southwest music festival, where Spears was working off-duty as extra security.

Spears is now suing DPS after being disciplined for taking a picture with a public figure who has a several convictions for drug possession.

Emails obtained by Spears’ attorney through open records laws show that the incident went all the way to DPS Director Steve McCraw, who is best known for overseeing the state’s expansive border security operations.

“Apparently he would rather

work the convention while on a week’s vacation to earn additional money rather than take an additional tour on the border,” McCraw wrote. “He must not understand that he was being lampooned by a dope smoking cop hater which reflects very poorly on the department.”

DPS spokesman Tom Vinger confirmed the authenticity of the email but did not comment on its content. He referred to the agency previously saying that DPS holds employees to high standards of conduct and judgment.

The emails include a DPS supervisor explaining that Spears and other troopers have routinely taken pictures with other celebrities at SXSW. He mentions actor Robert Duvall, former NBA star Shaquille O’Neal and musicians Cee Lo Green and Rob Zombie.

Spears is seeking unspecified damages in a Travis County court. He claims his discipline was retaliation for filing a complaint several weeks earlier against a superior.

Margaret Atwood named honorary member of arts academy

NEW YORK (AP)—One of the world’s most celebrated writers, Canada’s Margaret Atwood, has been named a foreign honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

The academy also told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Robert Gottlieb, one of the world’s most celebrated book editors, has been awarded a Distinguished Service to the Arts prize.

Atwood, 75, is best known for her dystopian novel “The

Handmaid’s Tale,” and for such fiction as “Cat’s Eye” and “The Robber Bride.”

Other new foreign inductees include Italian author Roberto Calasso, British composer Peter Maxwell Davies, Canadian composer Raymond Murray Schafer and Japanese architect Kazuyo Sejima.

Earlier this year, Roger Angell, Sherman Alexie and Dave Eggers were among five

new inductees voted into the academy’s core membership of 250 writers, musicians, artists and architects

Gottlieb, 84, has edited such classics as Joseph Heller’s “Catch-22” and Robert Caro’s “The Power Broker,” and is a dance critic, biographer and a former editor of The New Yorker.

The academy also announced that former U.S. poet laureate

Louise Glueck was voted a gold medal for poetry and composer George Crumb a gold medal for music. William H. Gass has won the academy’s William Dean Howells Medal for the best novel of the past five years. Gass was cited for his 2013 book “Middle C.”

The academy is an honor society based in New York and founded in 1898, with members over the years ranging from James Baldwin and William Faulkner to Leonard Bernstein and Jasper Johns.



Atwood

Reese Witherspoon launches lifestyle brand Draper James

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Reese Witherspoon has launched her own lifestyle brand.

The Oscar-winning actress unveiled her Draper James online store Wednesday, which includes women’s clothing and accessories, stationery and home decor. Witherspoon says on the site that she named the brand for her grandparents, who showed her the charm of “gracious Southern living.”

The actress says in a video that the collection is “inspired by my romance, my love of the South combined with the modern woman that I am today.”

“I created this brand for you,” she says.

Some of the items available include a \$140 sun hat, a \$14 notepad and a \$30 set of thank-you cards.

In this Feb. 22, 2015 file photo, Reese Witherspoon arrives at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.



AP

Couple encounters rough seas over gift of cruise vacation

DEAR ABBY: I represented my daughter “Stacy” and her husband as their real estate agent. When any of my children purchase a home, I waive my commission. My daughter knew I had been trying to finance a trip to South America for my husband so he could complete his “bucket list.” She gave me a cruise on one of the most expensive cruise lines and airfare to South America as a gift for helping with their home purchase.

After my husband reviewed the itinerary, he said it wasn’t the trip he had in mind and wanted to know if my daughter could change it. I was embarrassed to ask her after receiving such a gracious gift. He became indignant and said if she really wanted to give him something he wanted, she wouldn’t mind changing the trip.

I told Stacy I couldn’t accept her gift because it was too much money. My husband is now angry with me because he feels I am the person at fault for the loss of the trip. Is my husband right that we should request a gift exchange from the giver, or was I justified for not accepting it in light of the fact that it was too much money?

JUST WANTS PEACE

DEAR JUST WANTS PEACE: Your husband sounds like a handful. HE was at fault. Your mistake was allowing him to put you in the middle.

I’m sorry you fibbed to your daughter about why you re-

fused her generosity, because the expense had nothing to do with it. Your husband’s ingratitude had everything to do with it. Because the cruise didn’t suit him, HE should have spoken to her and asked if the itinerary could be adjusted. That way nothing could have been lost in translation, and he might have gotten his wish.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: During WWII, while I was overseas in the Navy, I received a “Dear John” letter. It was devastating, especially because I was so far away and unable to immediately respond. Do you think it is appropriate for a person to send such a letter while the person is far away, especially while in the service, or should the person wait until the service member returns home and say it’s over face-to-face?

After all these years, I have heard many pros and cons about this question. I can think of no one else with such a wealth of knowledge in this area to ask but you. After hearing from you, I will finally put this to rest.

JOHN IN VINELAND, N.J.

DEAR JOHN: A decade ago I would have said—and DID tell someone—to wait until the person came home. My thinking was the news might demoralize the recipient and distract the person enough to get her/him killed.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



I CHANGED MY MIND after hearing from service members stationed in the Middle East who told me I was wrong—that it’s better to get the word while there were buddies close by who could be emotionally supportive. They suggested that if the service member hears the news when he gets back—alone and possibly traumatized by what he or she has been through—that it could make the person more vulnerable to suicide.

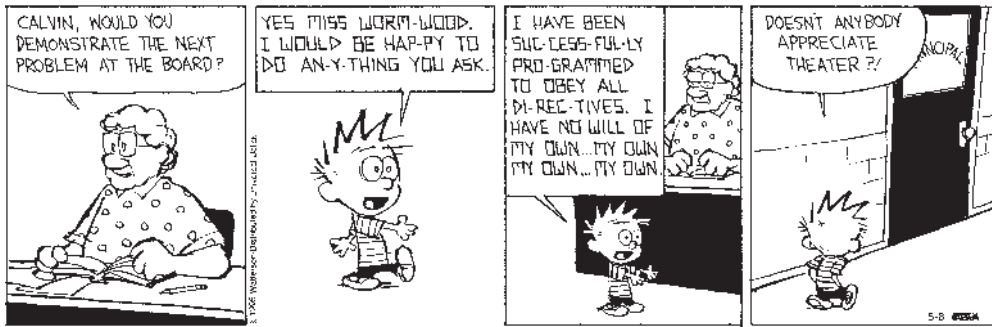
■■■

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

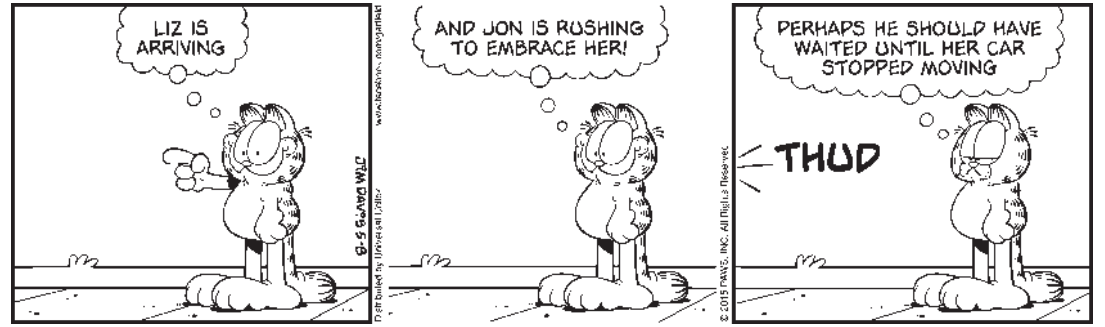
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



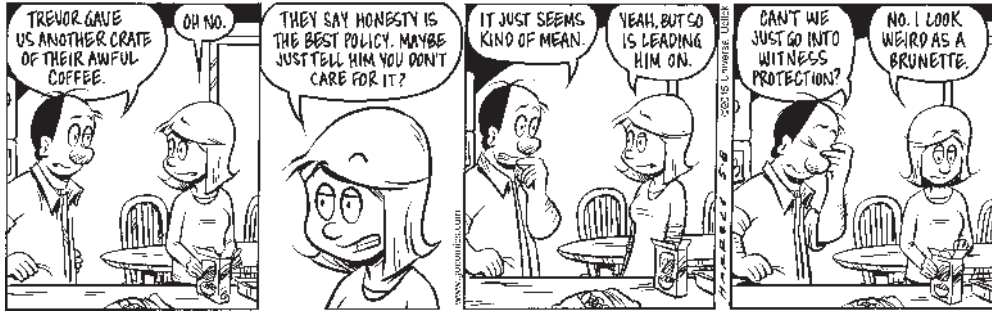
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



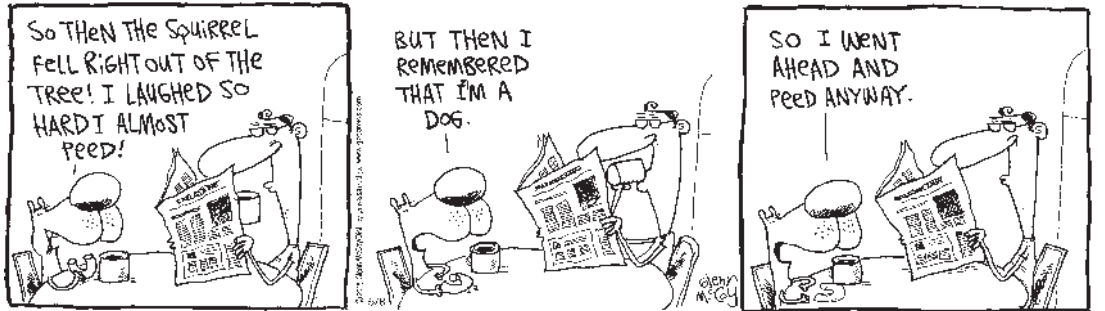
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 UNLV part

4 More, to Manuel

7 Sum-moned

12 Under the weather

13 Pismire

14 Harden

15 Greek cross

16 Drilling ordeal

18 "Let me see, ..."

19 Have a frog in your throat?

20 "My bad"

22 Spring mo.

23 Snap-shots

27 Moose's cousin

29 Tooth problem

31 Split to unite?

34 No liability

35 See 29-Across

37 Barracks bed

38 Taj Mahal city

DOWN

39 You can tie one on in Japan

41 Top

45 Less than 90 degrees

47 Thanks-giving veggie

48 Field of canines?

52 Fella

53 Romantic encounter

54 Calendar abbr.

55 First lady

56 Horse-drawn carriage

57 Tee preceder

58 Embar-rassed

23 Trattoria offering

24 Smart figs.

25 Prompt

26 Pre-pared

28 Grazing site

30 "7 Faces of Dr. —"

31 Greek vowel

32 Trail the pack

33 Bobby of hockey

36 Fabulous fliers

37 Fruit category

40 Montana city

42 Com-puter-related

43 Purple shade

44 Stick in

45 Ethereal

46 Spotters

48 Apply lightly

49 Flight-less bird

50 Yule beverage

51 Yank

Solution time: 25 mins.

ROA	ROIT	TACT			
AWL	OBOL	AGAH			
ALLOWING	LURE				
UR	GAILFRY				
BARBEH	LAY				
ALI	RUN	CHAE			
BANG	EEL	OLLA			
ARGUE	TEA	LIS			
MAESTRO	LOG				
ACME	ALLAYING				
SNIT	DIAS	NEA			
HERS	SOVE	GOB			

Yesterday's answer 5-8

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Enrique Iglesias, 40; Melissa Gilbert, 51; David Keith, 61; Don Rickles, 89.

Happy Birthday: Turn it on and pump it up. This is a promising year that must not be wasted. Come up with detailed plans that will add to your knowledge and improve your lifestyle. Promises can be made and positive personal changes put into play. Romance is in the stars, along with self-improvement and a positive attitude. Your numbers are 7, 19, 23, 29, 31, 36, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't fight the inevitable. Choose your words carefully. Do your best and keep moving forward. Let your creativity take over and spend your time developing ideas and planning your course of action. Discipline and hard work will pay off. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get organized and address information required to make a positive change. Your intuition won't let you down. Follow your heart and make an adjustment that will help you get what you want. Don't overpay for something. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Refrain from buying something you don't need. Someone will mislead you regarding an investment or legal matter. Ask questions before you promise to contribute your money, time or knowledge to someone else's business or plan. Protect your interests. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): An impulsive move will set you back. Don't let emotions lead to a poor decision. Look

for a creative outlet or take part in a cultural or philosophical event that will help you decipher what you want to do next. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make choices that lead to personal freedom and enable you to use your skills more diversely. Initiate a healthier lifestyle. Put in the effort required to break bad habits, and make wise choices regarding your physical, emotional and financial position. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get involved in social events. Participation will give you the opportunity to show off what you have to offer and to attract interest in your ideas, concerns and future direction. A partnership will develop with someone special. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let the changes going on around you ruin your day. Take part in events that offer mental stimulation or add to your skills and knowledge. Someone you offer help to will spark an idea that can change your life. ★★

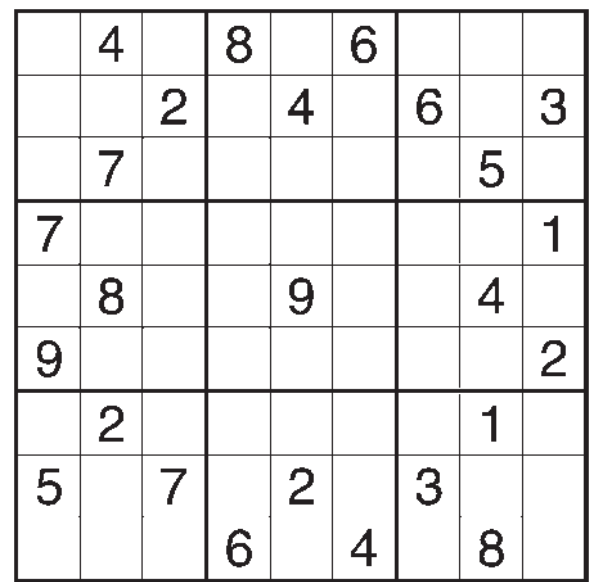
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't put pressure on others to do or see things your way. Do your own thing and you will attract the attention of the people you wish to work with. Love is highlighted, and romance will lead to a special promise. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An opportunity to make a residential move or to update your current abode will bring you great joy and bring about conversations that will help you stabilize your relationship with someone you want to spend more time with. ★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

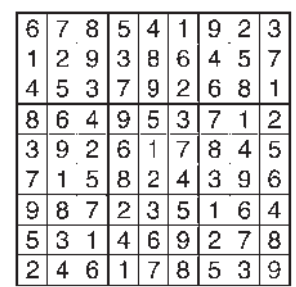


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

3/07

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick close to home and make plans to do things with the people you love. Beneficial alterations made to your surroundings should be geared toward practicality and pleasure. Love is on the rise, and romantic overtures will be appreciated. ★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on helping those less fortunate than you, but don't get tangled up in someone's personal affairs. If you meddle, you could be blamed for a negative outcome. Focus on home improvements and nurturing your relationships with the ones you love. ★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Share your emotions with someone you care about, but don't lecture. A positive and unique approach will get you closer to a solution that suits both your needs. Don't let outside demands put a wedge between you and someone you love. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are determined, loyal and traditional. You are aggressive and goal-oriented. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BIO GEL NAILS

Solution: 5 letters

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5/8

Acetone, Adhere, Artificial, Base, Brush, Buff, Care, Chemicals, Clean, Clear, Clippers, Coat, Colors, Cuticles, Designs, Extension, File, Finish, Glossy, Hand, Hard, Lacquer, Layers, Light, Long-lasting, Manicure, Natural, No Chip, Polish, Professional, Sculpture, Seaweed, Shape, Shimmer, Shine, Soft, Sticky, Technician, Thick, Ultraviolet

Yesterday's Answer: Crumbs

The WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2 is here! Purchase on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Accountant / Reservation Agent: \$1,500 - \$2,200 / month. Bachelor's degree in accounting and at least 2 years' accounting experience required. Must be familiar with U.S. GAAP and SAP. Korean language proficiency required. Email resume to asiana@hanmisaipan.com.

1 General Manager (Accounting): \$1,000-1,800/mo. 5 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Maintenance and Repair Worker, General: \$6.10/hr. At least 2 years experience required. Email resume to mc@hanmisaipan.com.

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan or e-mail it to lt_recruitment@tanholdings.com. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, May 21, 2015.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

(1) GUEST SERVICES AGENT
Qualifications: High School diploma or GED certificate. Must have minimum of one or two years of training involving both on-the-job experience and informal training with experienced workers in providing quality customer and personal services in related field. Must be able to speak English and Japanese. Must be able to work a variable schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

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Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than May 13, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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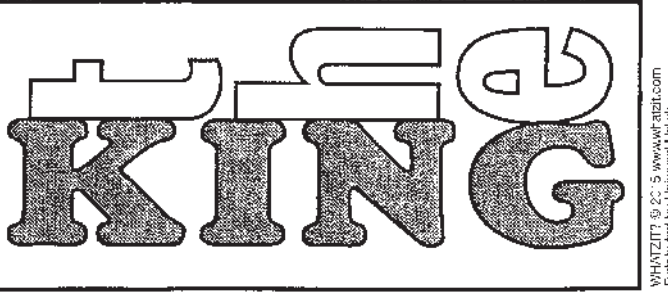
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Harden has big 4th quarter; Rockets beat Clippers



HOUSTON (AP)—James Harden scored 16 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter to lift the Houston Rockets a 115-109 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday night that evened their Western Conference semifinal at one game apiece.

Dwight Howard had 24 points and 16 rebounds for the Rockets, who bounced back from a 117-101 loss in the opener. Game 3 is Friday night in Los Angeles.

Trevor Ariza added 15 points and 13 rebounds for Houston, which made 42 of its 64 free throws.

Blake Griffin led Los Angeles with 34 points, but had just eight after halftime as Houston keyed on him with All-Star point guard Chris Paul out with a hamstring injury.

Coach Doc Rivers said before the game that Paul is getting better but still isn't "moving well." Rivers isn't sure if Paul will be ready for Game 3 but expects him to play at some point in this series.

The Rockets were down by three early in the fourth before scoring the next eight points, with 3-pointers by Ariza and Harden, to take a 93-88 lead.

Nine straight points by Los Angeles, capped by a 3 from Matt Barnes, cut the lead to four with 1:27 left, but Harden made a layup to extend the lead to 111-105. Howard and Harden each made two free throws to secure the victory.

Harden made all 15 free throws. Howard was 8 for 21.

Houston was 2 of 17 on 3-pointers before Ariza made one early in the fourth. Harden made another 3 about a minute after his first one in the period to make it 98-89 and flashed three fingers at the Clippers' bench.

There was a delay of several minutes with 11:54 remaining because the shot clock on one of the baskets went out. They finally gave up on getting it fixed and put one on the floor at both ends of the court and the public address announcer counted down when it reached 10.

Houston trailed by seven when Harden re-entered the game after spending most of the third quarter on the bench after picking up a fourth foul. He came in aggressive, driving the lane on the next two possessions, and getting fouled both times. He made three free throws and Ariza added a fourth one to get the Rockets within 85-83 entering the fourth.

A layup by Griffin soon after Harden left the game pushed the lead to 13 before a 14-4 run by Houston, powered by six points from Terrence Jones got Houston within 73-70 midway through the third.

DeAndre Jordan's one-handed slam about a minute later made it 77-73, but he went to

the bench with his fifth foul soon after that.

Paul spent his 30th birthday watching from the bench, as he missed the second straight game with a strained left hamstring. Paul was injured Saturday night against San Antonio, but returned to hit the winning shot to eliminate the Spurs.

The Clippers opened the second quarter with an 18-4 run, capped by four points from Griffin, to take a 42-39 lead. Griffin had 26 points at halftime on 11 of 14 shooting.

Los Angeles led 65-56 at halftime after a 41-point second quarter.

Cavaliers 106, Bulls 91

In Cleveland, the headband returned. The aggressiveness, dunks and dazzling plays all came back, too.

LeBron James wasn't going to have a second sub-par game.

James attacked from the start and scored 33 points, Kyrie Irving added 21 and the Cleveland Cavaliers evened their semifinal series with Chicago, beating the Bulls 106-91 in Game 2 on Wednesday night.

Donning the signature headband he ditched in March, James played like a man possessed. He powered to the basket, leaving Bulls defenders in his wake and keeping the Cavs, missing two starters, from falling into a 2-0 hole. He added eight rebounds and five assists for Cleveland, which led by 25 in the third quarter and withstood a third-quarter charge by the Bulls.

James said the choice to wear the headband was spur of the



Houston Rockets' James Harden (13) shoots past Los Angeles Clippers' Austin Rivers during the second half of Game 2 in a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Wednesday, May 6, 2015, in Houston.

moment.

"It was in my locker and I decided to give it a go," he said. "It was time for it to make a comeback."

The Cavs made one, too.

For the second straight game, they were without forward Kevin Love (shoulder surgery) and J.R. Smith (two-game suspension), but they had James and he was more like himself after an "off" opener.

"We're a little banged up, we're short-handed, so I have to be aggressive," James said. "Even more aggressive than my usual self, and I was happy I was able to make a couple of plays to help our team win tonight."

Jimmy Butler scored 18 and Derrick Rose had 14 points and 10 assists for the Bulls, who host Game 3 on Friday night. Pau Gasol added 11 points - 10 fewer than Game 1, when he destroyed the Cavs on uncontested jumpers.

Iman Shumpert added 15 points, James Jones made five 3-pointers and Tristan Thompson added 12 rebounds for Cleveland. Thompson started at power forward in Love's spot, allowing James to move back to small forward. On the perimeter is where James is most dangerous and he made it clear from the outset that he wasn't going to stand around and wait for the game to come to him.

At Irving's urging, James was "ultra-aggressive."

"There wasn't one possession where he wasn't dominant," Irving said. "When he has that mindset, he's the greatest player playing our game right now."

NFL finds Patriots employees probably deflated balls

By **EDDIE PELLIS**
AP NATIONAL WRITER



Tom Brady: Unbelievable.

The 243-page report on "Deflategate" came out Wednesday and stopped barely short of calling the Patriots star quarterback a cheater. It did, however, call some of his claims "implausible" and left little doubt that he had a role in having footballs deflated before New England's AFC title game against Indianapolis in January and probably in previous games.

In his report, attorney Ted Wells said the quarterback "was at least generally aware" of all the plans to prepare the balls to his liking, below the league-mandated minimum of 12.5 pounds per square inch. Wells said it was "more probable than not" that two Patriots employees—officials' locker room attendant Jim McNally and equipment assistant John Jastremski—executed the plan.

For his trouble, McNally asked for expensive shoes and

signed footballs, jerseys and cash. He brokered the deals over a series of salty text messages with Jastremski that portray Brady as a hard-to-please taskmaster. "F--- Tom," one read.

For the biggest home game of the season, McNally came through, taking the footballs from the officials' locker room into a bathroom before delivering them to the field, the report said.

The footballs—measured by officials at halftime—somehow lost pressure between being tested by the referee and the break.

As for Brady's claims that he didn't know of efforts to deflate game balls and didn't know anything about what McNally did: "We found these claims not plausible and contradicted by other evidence," Wells wrote.

The penalties for all this? To be determined. League executive vice president of football operations Troy Vincent is reviewing the report and will hand down the punishment.

Former NFL executive Bill Polian, familiar with the league's crime-and-punishment procedures after spend-

ing 19 years on the powerful competition committee, said the term Wells used—"more probable than not"—has been the standard of proof the NFL has used for competitive violations over the last six years.

"In short, he is finding there was a violation," Polian said. "In many ways I think this report is as important as the discipline. It clearly says a violation occurred."

This offseason, the league has fined the Falcons \$350,000 and stripped a fifth-round draft pick for pumping artificial crowd noise into the stadium during home games. It also suspended Browns general manager Ray Farmer for four games for sending texts to the sideline during games last season.

By almost any account, this rules violation is more serious. It involves arguably the league's top star, a four-time Super Bowl winner who is bound for the Hall of Fame, and its marquee team—one that has spent almost the last decade under the microscope after getting caught in the vid-

eotaping scandal dubbed "Spygate" in 2007.

One sign of the real-world reaction: The gambling website Bovada took down all betting odds on the Patriots until it finds out whether Brady will be suspended.

Hall of Fame tight end Shannon Sharpe tweeted this: "Brady must be suspended for minimum of 2-4 gms, Belichick gets 1 yr and tm loses 1st rd draft pick 2016-17."

Back in 2007, it was coach Bill Belichick in the crosshairs for cheating. This report didn't find any evidence that Belichick or the coaching staff knew anything about deflating the balls.

Owner Robert Kraft called the conclusion "incomprehensible." But he said the Patriots would accept the findings and any subsequent discipline.

The report cites evidence that McNally took the game balls into a bathroom adjacent to the field, and stayed there for about 100 seconds—"an amount of time sufficient to deflate thirteen footballs using a needle."

Other evidence included ref-

eree Walt Anderson's inability to locate the previously approved footballs at the start of the game—the first time that had happened to him in 19 years.

The report includes text messages between McNally and Jastremski—sent in October and January—that imply Brady was requesting deflated footballs. The texts also imply that Brady had previously been upset with the quality of the game balls.

They described requests from McNally for swag from Brady in exchange for deflating the balls.

"Remember to put a couple sweet pig skins ready for tom to sign," one said.

"Nice throw in some kicks and make it real special," another said.

A footnote in the report mentions that Brady put up better stats in the second half of New England's 45-7 romp over Indianapolis—after the Colts had relayed suspicions of under-inflated footballs and they had been pumped up to regulation level.



WASHINGTON (AP)—

Bryce Harper hit three home runs in a game for the first time and had five RBIs, and the Washington Nationals beat Miami 7-5 Wednesday to take two of three from the Marlins for their third straight series win.

Harper hit a solo homer in the second, a two-run drive in the third and a bases-empty shot in the fifth, the last two reaching the second deck, all off Tom Koehler (2-3).

With an opportunity to tie major league record of four homers in a game, Harper hit a run-scoring groundout in the seventh.

Max Scherzer (2-3) struck out 10 and allowed five runs and 10 hits over seven-plus innings, including Giancarlo Stanton's three-run homer in the eighth. Drew Storen got three outs for his eighth save.

Blue Jays 5, Yankees 1

In Toronto, Russell Martin homered and Mark Buehrle earned a victory over the Yankees for the first time in more than a decade.

Martin went 3 for 4 and Chris Colabello had a career-high four hits as the Blue Jays took two of three from the AL East-leading Yankees.

Buehrle came in with a 1-14 record in his career against New York, and was 0-12 with a 7.27 ERA in 17 starts against them since his lone victory.

Buehrle's only previous win over the Yankees came on April 10, 2004. Buehrle (4-2) allowed

Harper gets best of Koehler as Marlins fall to Nationals

one run and six hits in five innings.

CC Sabathia (0-5) remained winless in six starts,

Padres 9, Giants 1

In San Francisco, Ian Kennedy (2-1) struck out five in seven innings to win his second straight start, and San Diego avoided a sweep and stopped the Giants' eight-game home streak.

Austin Hedges, a 22-year-old rookie, hit an RBI single in a five-run third for his first major league hit, then added a sacrifice fly in the eighth. He also threw out Nori Aoki at second following his RBI single in the third.

Indians 10, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Mo., just about everyone in the Cleveland lineup drove in a run, Carlos Carrasco tossed seven sharp innings and the Indians rolled to a win over the Kansas City Royals.

Brandon Moss homered and added a two-run double to lead the charge, but six other Indians also drove in runs, helping Carrasco (4-2) end a three-game skid against the Royals.

Diamondbacks 13, Rockies 7, 1st game Diamondbacks 5, Rockies 1, 2nd game

In Denver, Paul Goldschmidt homered and Robbie Ray threw six strong innings in a spot start, helping the Arizona Diamondbacks complete their first doubleheader road sweep since

2006, beating the scuffling Colorado Rockies.

In the opening game, Aaron Hill tied a career high with four RBIs, including a three-run homer, as the Diamondbacks breezed to a win.

In the game, Jordan Lyles (2-3) allowed four runs in seven innings as the Rockies dropped their seventh straight. Ray (1-0), who allowed five hits and one run, was to be sent right back to Triple-A Reno.

Reds 3, Pirates 0

In Pittsburgh, Mike Leake worked eight innings for his sixth straight victory over Pittsburgh and Marlon Byrd homered for the second night in a row.

Leake (2-1) allowed six hits and has not lost to the Pirates in 15 starts, dating to 2012.

The Reds' Brandon Phillips had three singles, including one that hugged the third-base line in the fourth inning and scored Todd Frazier, who had tripled, with the game's first run. Phillips scored on Leake's single then Byrd led off the fifth inning with his fifth home run of the season.

Mets 5, Orioles 1

In New York, Jacob deGrom bounced back from two subpar starts with seven overpowering innings, Dilson Herrera hit his first homer of the season among three hits and the New York Mets won their eighth straight

over the Baltimore Orioles.

DeGrom (3-3) struck out nine, yielding six hits and a run.

Rangers 11, Astros 3

In Houston, Carlos Peguero hit a pair of solo homers, Shin-Soo Choo had a two-run shot and the Texas Rangers routed the Houston Astros behind eight strong innings from Colby Lewis.

Adrian Beltre was a home run shy of the cycle for the Rangers, who finished a three-game sweep. Houston had won 10 straight entering the series, but was outscored 20-5 over the three games.

Braves 7, Phillies 5

In Atlanta, Andrelton Simmons had three hits, including a homer, Freddie Freeman drove in three runs with three hits and the Atlanta Braves beat the Philadelphia Phillies 7-5 on Wednesday night.

The Braves won two of three for their first series win since taking two of three at Toronto April 17-19. T

Rays 5, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Evan Longoria hit two solo homers, Kevin Jepsen worked out of an eighth-inning jam and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Boston Red Sox.

Joey Butler had given the Rays a 4-2 lead with a two-run single in the sixth, two nights after hitting his first major-league homer.

The Red Sox cut that lead on

Mookie Betts' fifth homer of the season, his third in two days, leading off the eighth against Jepsen.

Brewers 6, Dodgers 3

In Milwaukee, Adam Lind homered and doubled and the Milwaukee Brewers scored five runs in the first inning off Joe Wieland.

Wily Peralta (1-4) pitched eight solid innings to win for the first time in six starts.

Francisco Rodriguez pitched the ninth inning for his sixth save in as many chances. Milwaukee has won four of five, but still has the worst record in the majors at 9-19.

Twins 13, Athletics 0

In Minneapolis, Eddie Rosario homered on the first pitch he saw in his major league career, Eduardo Escobar also homered and had five RBIs and the Minnesota Twins beat the Oakland Athletics.

Rosario's milestone homer traveled about 400 feet into the left-field seats and gave Minnesota a 1-0 lead in the third inning. He's the 29th major leaguer to homer on his first pitch and the 117th to go deep in his first at-bat.

Cubs 6, Cardinals 5

In St. Louis, Anthony Rizzo homered with three RBIs and Jon Lester had a strong outing for the Chicago Cubs, who ended the St. Louis Cardinals' eight-game winning streak and their own four-game skid.

Jhonny Peralta hit a 447-foot homer and Yadier Molina had two hits and two RBIs for the Cardinals. Lance Lynn (1-3) allowed five runs in six innings.

White Sox 7, Tigers 6

In Chicago, Melky Cabrera homered and drove in four runs, and the Chicago White Sox scored four times in the eighth inning to rally past the Detroit Tigers.

Avisail Garcia's two-out single drove in the go-ahead run on the sixth straight hit off reliever Joba Chamberlain (0-1). All of them came after he retired the first two batters in the inning.

Angels 4, Mariners 3

In Anaheim, Calif., Johnny Giavotella hit an RBI double in the ninth inning and Mike Trout homered, leading the Los Angeles Angels to their second walk-off win in a row over the Mariners.

One night after Carlos Perez punctuated his major league debut with a home run in the bottom of the ninth against Dominic Leone, Giavotella got his first career game-ending hit. It scored Erick Aybar, who bunted into a force play after David Freese drew a leadoff walk from Carson Smith (0-2) and was replaced by pinch-runner Taylor Featherston.

Huston Street (2-0) was credited with the win after his first blown save in 10 opportunities this season. He gave up a sacrifice fly by pinch-hitter Dustin Ackley in the top of the ninth.



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DIAL

Rent-to-Own

Castro tops Tour De Tinian III

Saipan youth biker Eric Castro this time ruled the Tour De Tinian III after completing last Saturday's 100-kilometer mountain bike race in 5:03:15.

Castro, who was runner-up to fellow Saipan rider Nap Dizon last year, finished way ahead of Dencio Bautista and Cesar Fortaleza in the century race

dubbed as the toughest MTB event in Micronesia and held in celebration of San Jose's fiesta.

Bautista reached the finish/start line at Kammer Beach

more than 20 minutes behind Castro, as the former clocked in at 5:27:05. Fortaleza submitted 5:28:12 to round out the Top 3 overall.

Besides his overall first place finish, the 16-year-old Castro also took the top honors in the open division, while Bautista and Fortaleza won the men's 36 to 45 age group and 46-and-above divisions, respectively.

Bautista prevailed over Tinian's Charlie Cabreros (5:30:33) and Fernando Cacabelos (6:00:20), while Fortaleza was joined in the Top 3 by Tinian's Norlo Jacosalem (5:29:27) and Saipan's Romy Gueverra (5:51:04).

In the women's division, Tinian's Kimberlyn King-Hinds was the top finisher after capping the race that brought riders thorough the jungles, single-

track courses, and old military roads on Tinian, in 5:28:50. She was the fourth overall finisher and won the close fight in the open division against Saipan's Kaity Mattos, who logged 5:28:52. Another Saipan rider, Kimiko McKagan, made it to the Top 3 with her 5:30:27.

Other individual finishers in the 100K race were Ian Pascua (5:58:42) and Jay Diyo and Floro Derexes, who registered similar times of (7:24:31). Twelve other bikers, including Dizon, failed to complete the race due to flat tires and other mechanical problems.

Meanwhile, there was also a relay race in last Saturday's competition with the pair of Richard Asuncio and Rusty Valino timing in at 5:28:34 to beat the tandem of Robert Fajardo and Joseph Cabay, who com-

bined for 5:51:08.

A separate competition for kids also took place last weekend with Matthew Sarmiento, Edgar Acollador II, and Elcy John making the winners list.

Sarmiento topped the boys 5 to 7 division after posting 6:20 in the

race around the parking area at Kammer Beach. He won over Edmar Tirona (6:44), Lino Thomas Tenorio (7:49), and Amiel Jacosalem. In the boys 8 to 10 division, A-

collador timed in at 5:40 to beat Christopher King Jr. (6:13), Edward Tirona (6:56), Mefi Norich (7:04), and Andre Jacosalem (7:16). John ruled the girls 8 to 10 division with her 7:29 besting the 7:41 of Siena Lazaro and 12:18 of Ceslee John.

Bikers Association of Tinian organized the weekend races, which drew more than 30 riders. *(Roselyn B. Monroyo)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Erico Castro poses for a photo at the finish line of last Saturday's Tour De Tinian II at Kammer Beach.

LEINA

From Page 32

putt for birdie after Kim placed her approach shot within five feet of the hole with Williams' bunker shot landing on the green.

Kim then rolled in the birdie putt to beat Williams by one stroke to seal another trip to the Nationals, her second after also qualifying for the first time as a freshman in 2013. She could have earned a second straight appearance last season but signing an incorrect scorecard in the regional tournament cost her the berth.

Kim, who jumped from 25th

to a tie for third place following a 4-under 68 in Day 2 at the challenging Foxtail Golf Club at Rohnert Park in California, bogeyed three of her first holes to go 4-over in the tournament.

She then pared holes No. 5 to 8 before closing out with a bogey that kept her at 4-over with nine more holes to go and 5-over in the tournament. She then opened the back with five straight pars that kept her in contention for the individual crown.

Birdies on No. 15 and 16, and a par at No. 17 kept her at 2-over for the round and 3-over in the tournament that helped

strengthen her title bid. But a double-bogey on No. 18 sent her back to 5-over.

Kim finished the three-day, 54 hole NCAA West Regional Tournament at 5-over 221. She will join Moore and Wang to the Nationals set from May 13 to 16 at the Meadows Golf Course to be hosted by Grand Valley State in Allendale, Michigan.

Tarleton State won the team crown with a three-day haul of 29-over 893, while St. Edward's finished second with a 34-over 898. Tournament host Sonoma State tallied 38-over 902 for third place to clinch the team category in next week's Nationals.

TAN

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of those two matches and even if it wins against Paire (3-1-5) this Sunday at 2pm, the former will not be able to catch up with Tan Holdings. Wild Bill's holds a 7-0-2 mark. The other Division 1 game this weekend will have the third-running MP United (4-2-3) battling fifth-ranked Inter Godfather's (2-2-5) at 4pm.

In other results last Sunday, Paire downed Korean Football Association on Saipan, 2-0, while World Resort also got a shutout win against the CNMI Women's National Team, 6-0, in the Division 2 pairing.

World Resort, with its 5-4-3

slate, moved up to third place in the team standings behind Matansa (7-2-2) and Sun Palace (6-3-2).

The spring champion in Division 2 has yet to be decided as Sun Palace still needs to play the CNMI Women's National Team this Sunday and results of the Matansa-Kanoa tiff last Wednesday have yet to be turned in at press time.

Meanwhile, Shirley's got the spring title in the 2015 Dove Women's Football League as competition concluded last Tuesday.

Shirley's finished the season with an impressive 11-0-1 record, absorbing its lone loss in the league at the hands of Tan Holdings FC. The spring cham-

pion scored the most goals (45) in the league and allowed the least (5).

Tan Holdings jumped from third to second with its 8-3-1 mark, 35 goals for and 14 goals against, while MP United rounded out the Top 3 after winning its last two games. MP United whipped Kanoa FC, 7-2, last Tuesday and got a free win (forfeiture) against Independents last Saturday.

Matansa also prevailed via default against Paire last Saturday to finish with a sixth-best record of 2-3-6. Paire ended up at the bottom of the team standings with its 2-1-9 card, while Kanoa (4-3-5) and Independents FC (3-0-9) were ranked fourth and fifth, respectively.

'Pikaboo' in ROP's twin title match

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez will be fighting for the first time since 2011 when he takes on High Blood Pressure's Ernie Santos in a featured double main event in the Rights of Passage 18: Warpath on May 15 at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

Trench Tech's Alvarez and Santos (5-0) will be fighting for the vacant 125-lb flyweight belt, while UMA Gym's Jose "Young Blood" Ramirez (1-1) takes on Guam Muay Thai's Eric "Gatty" along with Gatman (2-0) for the 155-lb lightweight strap.

The flyweight belt was vacated after it was stripped from Josh "Chaos" Duenas (4-5) following the former champion's failure to defend his title for not making weight.

Alvarez (10-2), in a Facebook post, said that he likes fighting in front of his hometown fans on Saipan. He is coming off a technical knockout loss to Ultimate Fighting Championship veteran Darren Uyenoyama (10-5) in Pacific Xtreme Combat last year.

Santos is still undefeated and has beaten the CNMI's Allan Aguon (1-2) and Mark Nuique (8-4) in back-to-back ROP events last year.

"This is a big and very important fight for me especially since it is for the belt so I have trained very hard these past few months so that I could perform at my best. I am so ready to showcase my skills," said Alvarez.

"I will keep working hard so that I could keep climbing the ladder and make all of you guys proud. It will also be great night since I will be fighting along with my cousins Roman and Robert Alvarez. We've all been training hard and are ready to put on a great show," he added.

Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez will face UMA Gym's Ethan "Typhoon" Reyes while "Shiska" Rob Alvarez battles Jarome Cruz of UX.GMT.

Fight promoter Cuki Alvarez said that Frank "The Crank" Camacho won't be fighting this time due to his work, but 13 undercard bouts will be featured on Friday. The weigh-in scheduled on Thursday, May 14, from

5pm to 7pm at GIG in Garapan.

UMA Gym's Jayvin "The Prodigy" Santos will open up the fight event when he takes on Zalaka's Denny Jepen in one of three kickboxing matches. Guam Muay Thai's Wesley "Baby Bull" Ponio and Kier "The Radical Kidd" Agda of Strikeforce, and Ryan "Snowflake" Perez and Fradley Jepen of Zalaka are the other bouts.

In the other fights, Timothy Salas of Team Zalaka will face Down2Scrap's Jonathan "The Outlaw" Camacho, Jadrien "Bonbon" Camacho of MCM-MMA will collide with A.J. "Mini Mouse" Aldan of Trench Tech, Daniel "Flowmotion" Floor will clash with Josh "Oh My gosh" Cruz, Keigh "K Oz" Ogo of Luta will trade punches with Red Ants Academy's Jones Langu.

Independent John Nekaifes will test the skills of Team Intense's Renz "The Intense" Benghit, Lorenzo "Fruity Pebbles" Attao clashes with Trench Tech's Lucas "The Irish Zombie" Nutting, Cole Morrill also from Trench Tech takes on Derrick Asao of Zalaka, while Mike Medic Pacini of Guam Muay Thai will face Strikeforce's Jamaal "The Striker" Mresbang.

EUCON

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Yu and Jerry Wong's free throws and Zion Alamer's triple to move within 1, 24-25. However, the Knights went on a 14-4 windup to establish a double-digit lead, 39-28, entering the fourth quarter. Toves and Camacho combined for 10 points in that rally to give Mt. Carmel more breathing room.

Eucon failed to keep Mt. Carmel within striking distance as the Blazers were held scoreless for more than three minutes in the third period after slicing the deficit to one early in that quarter. Allen Yu nailed the two field goals for Eucon, whose offense became so predictable with the former almost always going for

the basket for the Blazers. On a few occasions when Yu did not have possession, Mt. Carmel pressured Eucon's ball handlers right at the backcourt, forcing the Blazers to rush to their frontcourt and take hurried shots.

Eucon settled down a bit at the start of the fourth and opened the last quarter with a quick 4-0 scoring off Yu and Peter Wang's layups to cu the deficit down to 7, 32-39, but that was the closest that Eucon could get.

Mt. Carmel coach Francis San Nicolas sued for time after Eucon made two straight baskets and when the game resumed, Camacho led an 8-0 run to take the game away for good, 47-32, going into the last four minutes of the match. Camacho

scored 6 consecutive points off layups and could be credited for half of the two other markers Jonah Hahn made, as the former fed the big man off a pick-and-roll play. Camacho went on to put the finishing touches in the Knights' convincing win, as he scored 10 of their 16 fourth-quarter points. Camacho earned a living using the picks set up by his teammates from the top key to open up the driving lane and get away from his defenders.

MCS 55 – Toves 20, Camacho 19, Hahn 6, Gamab 3, Tkel 3, Deleon Guerrero 2, Son 2.

Eucon 46 – Yu 33, Alamer 7, Wong 4, Wang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-11, 25-19, 39-28, 55-46.

Blue Haus nears Masters division sweep

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Blue Haus stretched its winning run to four following a 90-72 rout of Armatech in the curtain-raiser in the Masters division of the 2015 United Filipino Organization Basketball League last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win moved Blue Haus one victory away from sweeping the regular season of the six-team league. It will play its last game tomorrow against second-running LBT Appraisal (3-1) at 6:30pm. Armatech, which fell to a 2-2 slate for third place, also has one more game left and will collide against the Old'Aces on Wednesday.

The Old'Aces barged into the win column after a 0-2 start as they bagged a similar easy win against Graphics/Star 6 in the second game, 65-45, last Wednesday. The Old'Aces will challenge Auto Motion (2-2) first this Saturday before meeting Armatech for their final regular season assignment. Graphics/Star 6 is done for the season and finished last after failing to win a single match in five games.

While Graphics/Star 6 is at the cellar, Blue Haus sealed the top spot after dominating Armatech. Edsel Mendoza and Tony Diaz teamed up in the lopsided win, scoring 23 points each, while Edwin Santos and Ernie Moises backed them up, adding 13 and 12, respectively.

Mendoza knocked in two early triples, while Emir Abuan and Moises drilled one trey each, and Diaz chipped in 5 points to lift Blue Haus to an early double-digit lead after the first period, 27-14.

Blue Haus increased the advantage in the last three quarters with Mendoza and company still on target, while only James



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Blue Haus' Junar Guiab drives against Auto Motion's Joseph Galulu, left, and Fradel Sedillo, right, during an earlier Masters division game in the UFO caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Blue Haus holds a 4-0 record in the six-team league.

Abuy countered for Armatech.

In the second game, Elias Rangamar sizzled for 24 points to power the Old'Aces to their first win.

The Old'Aces led from start to finish, as they held Graphics/Star 6 to single-digit scoring in the first two periods (7 and 8 points). Rangamar, who made only one field goal in the first frame, registered 6 in the second, turning a 13-7 advantage to a 27-15 half-time edge. He went on to have a strong finish, firing 12 points in the fourth canto.

Bryan Manabat was the only other Old'Aces player to break into double figures with his 10 points, while Darwin Gonzales also had 10 markers and was the lone player on Graphics/Star 6

side to score in twin digits.

First Game

Blue Haus 90 – Mendoza 23, Diaz 23, Santos 13, Moises 12, Guiab 6, Abuan 5, Fernandez 4, Palacios 2.

Armteach 72 – Abuy 17, Berline 13, Poquiz 9, Gabaldon 8, Moreno 7, Malasarte

6, Tolentino 4, Montano 4, Tobias 2.

Scoring by quarters: 27-14, 49-33, 70-55, 90-72.

Second Game

Old'Aces 65 – Rangamar 24, Manabat 10, Diaz 8, Luzama 6, Rogolifo 5, Stoll 4, Fitial 4, Renguul 4.

Graphics/Star 6 45 – Gonzales 10, S. Ebuon 7, Abadilla 6, O. Ebuon 5, De Jesus 5, Bau-

tista 4, Garcia 4, Tibayan 4.

Scoring by quarters: 13-7, 27-15, 41-31, 65-45.

MISO, NMBA move badminton tournament to next school year

The Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization and the Northern Marianas Badminton Association has decided to move the inaugural badminton tournament to next school year 2015-2016.

MISO executive director Nick Gross said the decision came after numerous activities, like the Marianas March Against Cancer were also lined up last weekend, and due to lack of interested schools participating.

The test tournament was initially set on May 2, Saturday, and MMAC finished at around 6am that day. Marianas High School also held their prom night last week.

"But we are excited to move forward with our plans to implement badminton into the high school sports calendar for the 2015-2016 school year with the season taking place from September to November," said Gross.

Gross added that MHS,

if the tournament pushed through, would have a team composed of five players each in the boys and girls divisions since 33 tried out for the squads that was going to be formed, while Saipan Southern High School have one boy and one girl.

"Let's postpone 'til September and maybe do an early bird tournament towards the end of the month in preparation for next school year,"

NMBA tournament coordinator Andreau Galvez agreed with Gross' suggestion. "We can always reschedule and prepare for the next school year's season."

NMBA is also suggesting of holding a coaching clinic and introduction to badminton to show how the sport is played. Gross said the development course could be set on the week of Aug. 17 to 22 at the MHS Gymnasium since public school teachers report back to work. (NMBA)

Race for playoffs spots heats up in Thursday league

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The race for the last three slots in the Budweiser-Saipan Billiards Association Open 8-Ball Thursday League is expected to heat up with four teams trying to catch up with leaders Route 33 Alamo Car Rental.

Route 33 is currently on top with a 116-79 card followed by Wild Bill's 110-85 record. Abyss Rack 'N' Roll and Jokers Homeboyz are tied at 107-88 for third to fourth places, while the Abyss Titans are at fifth at 100-95.

Route 33 could have widened its lead but it only managed to squeeze out an 8-7 decision against the Homeboyz with Boyet Sequio and Manny Mariano giving the decisive win in the Partners 8-Ball against Nolan Cultura and Jeff Garcia.

The Barcode Deadshot (95-100) and the Smoke Pub Magic 8-Ball (99-96) also scored 8-7 wins over the Jokers Wonderpool Aces (98-97) and the Rack 'N' Roll while Wild Bill's trounced the Abyss Titans, 10-5.

In the Tuesday League, the Jokers IT&E Voyagers pulled off a 9-6 triumph over the Smoke Pub Ali'I Destroyers to hike their record to 114-81 and enjoy a two-game lead over the Smoke Pub Armatech Hustlers (112-83).

The Destroyers dropped to

96-99, just a game behind the Abyss Crazy 8, a 9-6 conqueror of sister squad and the cellar dwelling Abyss Homeboyz II (76-119).

The Hustlers edged the Jokers Str8 Shooters (90-100), 8-7, in the other Tuesday match.

Results in the last Tuesday

league games between the Voyagers and Hustlers, Destroyers and Crazy 8, and Str8 Shooters and Homeboyz II last May 5 were not yet available at press time.

The Thursday League matches between the Deadshot and Route 33, Barcode Breakers and Magic 8-Ball, Homeboyz and Wild

Bills', Rack 'N' Roll, and Wonderpool Aces and Team SCS were still being played at press time.

The Top 4 squads after the elimination round of both leagues will advance to the next round with No. 1 taking on No. 4, while No. 2 battles No. 3. The winners of both match ups will move on to the finals while the losers play for third place.

M-LEAGUE FIXTURES

MEN'S DIVISION 1

Pos	Team	MP	W	D	L	Pts	GF	GA	GD
1	Tan Holdings	10	9	0	1	27	29	11	18
2	Wild Bills	9	7	0	2	21	37	21	16
3	MP United	9	4	2	3	14	23	16	7
4	Paire	9	3	1	5	10	9	16	-7
5	Inter Godfather's	9	2	2	5	8	23	24	-1
6	KFAS	10	0	1	9	1	6	39	-33

MEN'S DIVISION 2

1	Matansa	11	7	2	2	23	31	15	16
2	Sun Palace	11	6	3	2	21	17	18	-1
3	World Resort	12	5	4	3	19	28	19	9
4	Kanoa	11	6	1	4	19	28	23	5
5	Thundercats	12	4	3	5	15	25	19	6
6	Shirley's	12	4	3	5	15	24	25	-1
7	WNT	11	0	0	11	0	16	50	-34

WOMEN'S DIVISION

1	Shirley's	12	11	0	1	33	45	5	
2	Tan Holdings	12	8	3	1	27	35	14	21
3	MP United	12	7	1	4	22	27	23	4
4	Kanoa	12	4	3	5	15	28	30	-2
5	IFC	12	3	0	9	9	12	35	-23
6	Matansa	12	2	3	7	8	16	31	-15
7	Paire	12	2	1	9	7	12	37	-25

UPCOMING GAMES

May 10 (Men's)
2pm Paire vs Wild Bills
4pm MP United vs Inter Godfather's
6pm Sun Palace vs WNT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Smoke Pub Magic 8-Ball are hoping to collect more wins in order to catch up with the leaders and improve their chances of clinching one of the four playoff berths in the Thursday League.



**Harden has
big 4th quarter;
Rockets beat
Clippers**

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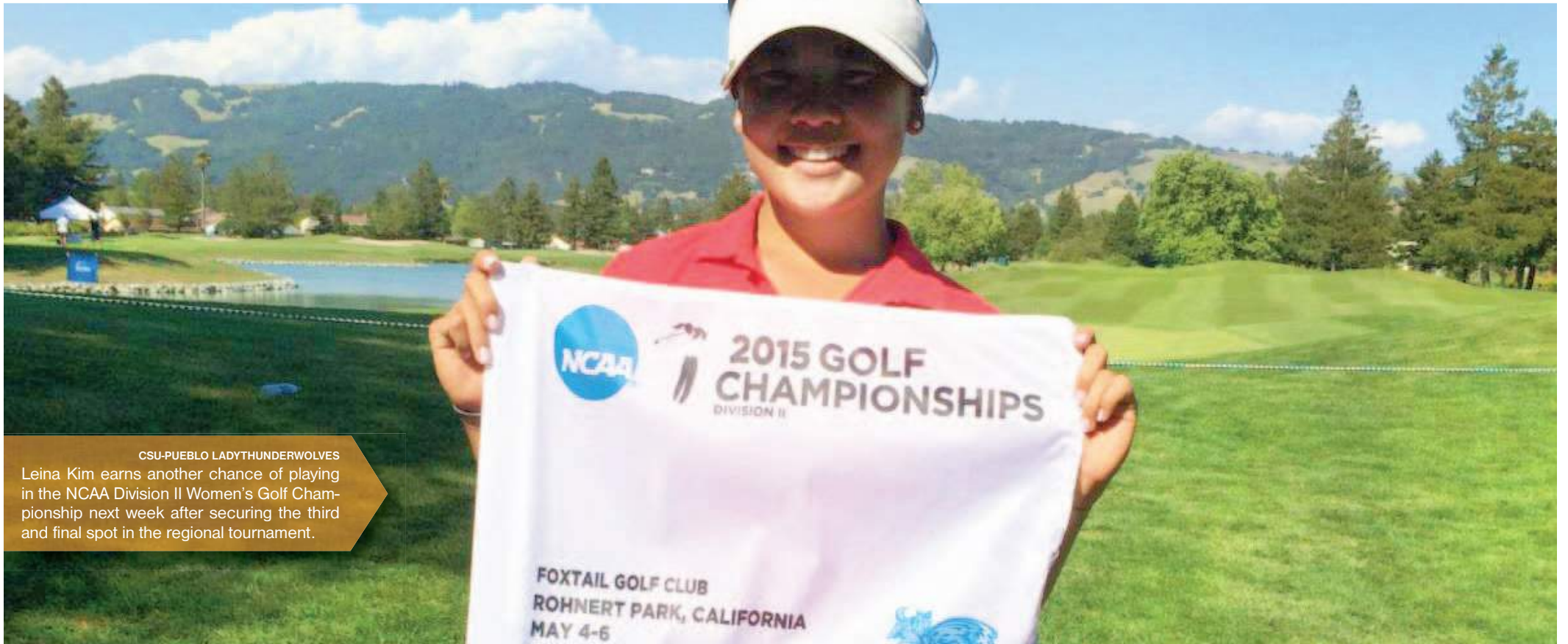
**Blue Haus
nears Masters
division
sweep**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



CSU-PUEBLO LADYTHUNDERWOLVES

Leina Kim earns another chance of playing in the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship next week after securing the third and final spot in the regional tournament.

Leina seals spot in Nationals

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Colorado State University-Pueblo Junior Leina Kim needed a birdie putt in the playoff hole to secure the third and final berth in the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship set next week in Allendale, Michigan.

Kim, who finished the third round with a 4-over 76, was forced to a playoff by Dallas Baptist's Sydney Williams as they both finished with a three-day total of 5-over 221, which was one shot behind the 4-over 220s of co-leaders Brenna Moore of Northwestern State and Academy of Art's Crystal Wang.



Kim and Williams, according to the CSU-Pueblo Lady ThunderWolves website, played in the par-4 No. 10 for the playoff with the Saipan-born golfer hitting her tee shot down the middle of the fairway, while the latter landed in a fairway bunker.

Both players were going to

See LEINA on Page 38

Tan Holdings, Shirley's bag spring titles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club and Shirley's FC took the spring championship in their respective divisions.

In the M-League, Tan Holdings ruled Division 1 as it finished the double-round robin contest with a 9-0-1 win-draw-loss record. Tan Holdings secured the spring crown following a

2-0 victory over Inter Godfather's last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Martin Jambor scored the twin goals in Tan Holdings' title-clinching win, making both in the first half. Tan Holdings had already secured the division champion although there are two more games left in the season.

Wild Bill's will play in one

See TAN on Page 38



Mt. Carmel dethrones Eucon

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School dominated deposited champion Eucon International School in the second half en route to a 55-46 victory in the winner-take-all finale in the boys high school division of the 2014-2015 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Knights drew solid games from Markel Toves and William Camacho to foil the Blazers' bid for back-to-back championships. Eucon won

last year's competition against Grace Christian Academy, 58-50.

Toves scored a team-high 20 points, while Camacho chipped in 19. Toves dropped 10 of his total output in the second quarter as he lifted Mt. Carmel to a 25-19 halftime lead after the game ended in a deadlock in the first quarter, 11-all.

In the second half, it seemed Eucon was headed for a comeback when it started the third with a short 5-0 run off Allen

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Mt. Carmel School's William Camacho goes up for a shot against three Eucon International School defenders during the third quarter of their title game in the COPSSA caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shirley's Football Club's Angelica Carreon breaks away from MP United defenders and chases the ball during their second round game in the 2015 Dove Women's Football League at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.